

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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**WELCOME TO A BIG
NEW YEAR OF ASW!**

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MISSION MEXICO

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WESTAD BID FOR 'WORTHO'



□ FRANK WORTHINGTON:
in dispute with Brighton.

FRANK WORTHINGTON, the controversial English ball-playing super striker, is expected to sign a contract with West Adelaide this week.

The club was preparing the contract as we went to press, following a verbal agreement from the veteran forward who toured Australia with Manchester United last year.

He is currently with English Second Division team Brighton, and had talks with West goalkeeper Gary Sproul who was home on holiday during the Australian close-season.

Trevor Brooking, the England and West Ham star who guested in two charity games in South Australia last year, also recommended West to Worthington.

With the same personality as Scot Dixie Deans, West are hoping

Worthington will do for them what Deans did for Adelaide City when he played for them in 1977, finishing top scorer in the Philips League.

West are insisting on a full season from Worthington and not a guest stint.

"We want a 100 per cent effort from Frank, so it must be a full sea-

son," said West secretary Con Daskalos.

"Guest contracts do not benefit clubs or players.

BY TOM MCKAIN

"From what we saw of Worthington last year and what we have seen on TV, he could be

a big hit in the NSL."

West have sponsors lined up to back the striker.

"We will not have to outlay a cent, and Worthington will be well looked after," said Mr Daskalos.

West are hoping Worthington will be released within a month

and possibly available for the closing stages of the SA Ampol Cup series.

Worthington, who has also played for Leeds, Luton, Bolton, Southampton, Birmingham, Sunderland and Leicester, is currently in dispute with Brighton.

THIS MARSHALL'S A WANTED MAN

BY BRAD EARL

THE race to sign dominating Australian striker Marshall Soper for the 1985 season hots up this week.

Sydney's National League clubs are vying for Soper's signature after he failed to come to terms with Sydney Olympic.

Soper, who lives in Newcastle, will come to Sydney tomorrow for negotiations.

The lanky 24-year-old is wanted by no less than six Sydney National League clubs.

But he hasn't ruled out the possibility of continuing his career with last season's Grand Final winners Sydney Olympic.

"I haven't discounted Olympic," Soper said last night.

"I told them I wouldn't accept a pay cut, but we're still having discussions."

In other NSL news, several players went to the NSW Soccer Federation's appeals tribunal last night in an attempt to have their transfer fees reduced.

John Bradley and Ian Gray both appealed against the \$25,000 fees placed on them by Apia Leichhardt.

EDITORIAL

DON'T PUSH THE SELF DESTRUCT BUTTON

"WE can destroy ourselves by cynicism and disillusion, just as effectively as by bombs."

That quote, from Sir Kenneth Clark's book 'Civilisation', is particularly relevant to Australian soccer as we enter a year of judgment.

The World Cup qualifying matches at the end of the season will determine Australia's international prog-

ress, but there are other important issues to be decided in 1985.

In two-and-a-half weeks our Young Socceroos will be attempting to become the third successive Australian Youth team to qualify for the World Youth Championship Finals.

The National Soccer League will again come under the microscope in its struggle to improve crowds, while the clubs themselves battle on with escalating debts.

In retrospect, 1984 was a depressing year for

soccer, but it is important that, above all, cynicism and disillusion do not reign supreme.

Bitterness and rivalry are more prevalent in soccer than in most other sports.

Steve Waugh, the teenager who has been selected in the New South Wales cricket team this season, was candid in his comments about his reasons for putting aside a promising soccer career.

In an interview, Waugh said he got more enjoyment out of cricket: "The people in cricket are better too ... nicer blokes," he said.

It is very easy for people to resign themselves to such things as empty stands, inept administration, disappointing standard of play and the difficulty of the Socceroos' World Cup draw.

Admittedly, the game needs to become more entertaining to survive in Australia's highly competitive leisure industry.

With so many teams battling to avoid relegation from the Northern Division of the NSL last season, matches involving those teams were often reduced to "safety-first" af-

fairs. Paying spectators must be given more than that.

Off the field, more long-term planning and promotion would improve the stability of a sport so often rocked by controversy.

The NSL clubs took a forward step when they decided to stick with the current League format for the next three years.

There's is a future for soccer in Australia, so long as we look to the future with enthusiasm instead of cynicism and anticipation in place of disillusion.

ITS A VITAL YEAR FOR SOCCER

BY DAVID JACK

WITHOUT doubt, 1985 is destined to be a vitally important year in soccer in Australia.

At national level, the big question will be answered ... is Frank Arok's Socceroo squad good enough to take Australia into the 1986 World Cup Finals in Mexico?

The Youth Socceroos, too, will be on trial in qualifying matches for the World Youth Championship.

Unlike the seniors, the Young Socceroos go directly into the Finals if they win the Oceania elimination group. It's a pity Australia's

rarely-felt influence at FIFA headquarters could not have insisted on a similar arrangement for the 'A' team.

Demands

There is also a World Cup for Under 16s to be contested, an innovation which, in my opinion, is going to make excessive demands on every soccer-playing nation — not least financially.

Looking at the club scene, it is absolutely essential that the Na-

tional League should emerge, this year, as a viable competition, able to attract far more spectators than it has in its recent past.

The NSL's Northern Division looks promising. It is compact with its make-up of teams from Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong and the ACT. For the first time since the NSL was introduced eight years ago, it will be possible for club supporters to travel regularly to away games without incurring expensive air fares or spending dreary hours at the wheel of a car.

There will be many local derby games and this must be a big plus.

Regrettably, the Southern Division looks far less attractive.

It will include teams from Victoria, Queensland and South Australia and even the greatest optimist must agree the only matches likely to pull in large numbers of spectators are when Melbourne teams play Melbourne teams.

Matches between Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City and bet-

ween West Adelaide and Adelaide City should also attract reasonable support.

The problem is ... when teams travel interstate, the attendances may be measured in hundreds rather than thousands.

A year ago, Tony Labbozzetta, vice-chairman of the National League, said: "The 1984 season will be make or break for the NSL."

Resilient

Let's be honest — it was a disastrous year as far as gate receipts were concerned. But it did not break the NSL, an amazingly resilient competition which bounces back for one more try this year.

I admire the effort constantly being made by officials like Labbozzetta, Sam Papasavas and Steve Kamasz to get the NSL show on the road. Their work deserves better reward.

But I have felt, for several years, that Australia is too large to accommodate a genuine national competition. This is why we still have not seen the emergence

of NSL teams in Western Australia and Tasmania.

Regionalisation has now arrived, at least in the Northern Division. How the strange conglomeration of teams in the Southern Division sort themselves out is another headache which, right now, looks insoluble.

The Australian Soccer Federation wants to see the NSL survive, for one obvious reason. It makes the talent-assessing job of national coach Frank Arok so much easier than it used to be in pre-NSL days.

In retrospect, in fact, it emphasises what a marvellous job Rale Rasic did in 1974 when he built a Socceroo side good enough to qualify for the World Cup. In those days, the net had to be cast wide embracing a huge number of club teams in many states.

Indeed Rasic faced an impossible task, which he solved by selecting 95 percent of his squad from NSW, a move which angered a lot of people in other states. But it was a wise decision, based on Rasic's contention that "players in NSW are 50 percent fitter than those in other states."

It would be great for Australian soccer if the National League this year recovered from its ailments and spawned the talent sought by Arok to sweep the Socceroos to Mexico in 1986.

And it would be marvellous if the new bunch of Youth Socceroos carried on the good work of the 1981 and 1983 youngsters who held their heads high in world competition.

Yes, 1985 will be quite a year. So much is expected of it.



□ MICHAEL McLAUGHLIN: quitting.

DEMONS' YOUNG STAR QUILTS

BY BRAD EARL

YOUNG Blacktown City striker Michael McLaughlin has "retired" from playing — at the age of 20.

McLaughlin, a striker, said he was "sick and tired" of the demands of National League soccer. "Last year was the hardest year I've had, and I thought I could do better things with my time," McLaughlin said.

"I have just received a promotion at work, and I will probably take on some extra studies."

Last year — his first in the NSL — McLaughlin produced some skilful performances towards the end of the season, after being troubled by injury.

That was his second year with Blacktown, joining them in 1983 following a two-year stint at the Australian Institute of Sport.

In 1983 he just failed to make the Australian squad for the World Youth Championship Finals in Mexico.

"If my enthusiasm comes back I will play again next year, but I'll see how I feel after I've had a rest," McLaughlin concluded.

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GET YOUR MESSAGE ACROSS — ADVERTISE IN ASW

PHONE JOHN ECONOMOS (02) 660 2033



□ TONY LABBOZZETTA

1985 DATES

FEBRUARY:

15 (Fri): World Youth Championship — Australia v New Zealand.

17 (Sun): WYC — Australia v Fiji.

20 (Wed): WYC — Australia v China Taipei.

22 (Fri): WYC — Australia v Papua-New Guinea.

24 (Sun): WYC — Australia v Israel, NSW Ampol Cup Final.

MARCH:

2-3 (Sat-Sun): NSL Cup Round 1.

9-10 (Sat-Sun): NSL Round 1.

20 (Wed): NSL Cup Round 2.

APRIL:

3 (Wed): NSL Cup Round 3.

17 (Wed): NSL Cup semi-finals.

25 (Thu): NSL Cup Final.

JULY:

27-28 (Sat-Sun): international fixtures.

AUGUST:

3-4 (Sat-Sun): international fixtures.

17-18 (Sat-Sun): NSL final round.

21 (Wed): Semi-finals 1 and 2.

25 (Sun): Semi-finals 3 and 4.

28 (Wed): Preliminary final.

SEPTEMBER:

1 (Sun): divisional grand final.

4 (Wed): national playoff match 1.

8 (Sun): national playoff match 2.

21 (Sat): World Cup — Australia v NZ (Auckland).

29 (Sun): International Ampol Cup — Australia v China.

OCTOBER:

10 (Thu) World Cup — Australia v Israel (Tel Aviv).

20 (Sun) World Cup — Australia v Israel (Sydney).

23 (Mon): World Cup — Australia v China Taipei (in Aust).

27 (Fri): World Cup — Australia v China Taipei (in Aust).

NOVEMBER:

3 (Sun) World Cup — Australia v New Zealand (Melbourne).

NSL BARGAINS — IF YOU LOOK FOR THEM

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

RECORD transfer fees paid by Soccer clubs in the past will be just that ... in the past.

That is for the sensible clubs, managed by people of the calibre of Sydney City's Eddie Thomson, St George's Frank Arok and Blacktown City's Peter Thorne, who exhibit financial responsibility on behalf of their clubs.

With attendances shrinking gradually at matches over the last decade, gate takings have dropped alarmingly, despite increases in admission prices to try and stem the tide.

Last week, Sydney Olympic learnt a bitter lesson about the transfer market: there is in fact a limit.

Speedy midfielder Jimmy Patikas was transferred to Sydney Croatia for \$25,000, despite Olympic having paid Sydney City \$30,000 to buy him two seasons back.

Financial sanity, eventually, will be forced upon NSL clubs, as the sheer weight of ever-growing losses on their balance sheets become unbearable, with constant debits drowning sparse credits.

The answer is not in sponsorships but in quality management.

That inspires selective buying as against wild, reckless, emotional spending sprees.

And don't be fooled that there are no bargains to be found.

I have listed below, some excellent buying propositions that have come on the Soccer market, and you don't need the Bank of England to get them.

For example, Newcastle Rosebud have on transfer Ralph Maier at a most modest \$1,000 with team-mates David Jones at \$2,500 and Joe Senkalski, the NSL's best ball-distributor, at a bargain rate of \$4,000.

It doesn't end there with Newcastle Rosebud, as they are offering their brilliant Kiwi goalkeeper, Clint Gosling at \$800. Gosling is already in New Zealand's World Cup squad for 1986, and a better pair of safe hands you will not find.

Other players in the "bargain department" are:

- Apia's Peter Jones — \$7,000.
- Blacktown City's John Stoddart — \$1,500.
- Brisbane Lions' Tony Scanlan — \$2,000.
- Canberra City Olympians' Jim Murray — \$2,500.
- Marconi's Ben Divani — \$500.
- Melita Eagles' Alex McPherson — \$3,500.
- Sydney Croatia's Kenny Boden — \$6,000.
- Wollongong City's Larry Gaffney — \$6,000.

People like Eddie Thomson and Frank Arok always show a financial, methodical and responsible attitude when it comes to buying, never offering "Mickey Mouse" sums for players which could place their club in financial jeopardy.

Already, both these manager-coaches have picked the eyes out of the transfer market and weeks ago at that.

Thomson snatched the magnificent, exciting winger Frank Farina from Canberra, for the paltry figure of \$8,800, whilst Arok followed this up by snaring Penrith City's reliable, steady and consistent



□ ROY COTTON

central striker, Roy Cotton, for FREE.

On today's market, Farina is worth every penny of \$20,000, whilst Cotton surely would be valued modestly at \$15,000.

The Thomsons and Aroks would please any club treasurer.

No wonder St George last season balanced their books \$1,240 in credit.

How many clubs can boast this achievement?

The bargains are out there. It is just a matter of going out and digging them up.

Better still "grow your own." Thousands of juniors right across the nation play the world's biggest sport, waiting to be sighted, pulled in and developed.

England's monumental club institution, the powerful Liverpool, has for example tagged a sparkling youngster at the ripe old age of 14 ... in Denmark.

According to one of Liverpool's numerous scouts, he will be a sensation within three years.

So the lad has been "Liverpool-tagged" and will soon be taken to Anfield, where the youth coaching department will work him.

In three year's time, the lad, a striker, could become another Ian Rush or Kenny Dalglish.

SAINTS TAKE PINDARI CUP

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE started the 1985 season in splendid fashion by winning the pre-season Pindari Challenge Cup.

Saints wrapped up the tournament and the \$5,000 winners' prizemoney by holding Sydney Croatia to a 0-0 draw in the last round.

Croatia came second, followed by Sydney Olympic, who were also held to a scoreless draw by fourth-placed Apia Leichhardt.

Jimmy Patikas, Croatia's exciting \$25,000 signing from Sydney Olympic, was magnificent.

He repeatedly busted through the middle on long runs before being arrested by the reliable Saints defenders, David Ratcliffe and Michael O'Shea.

Sydney Croatia is ready for a big season in the NSL this year, and with a powerful midfield of Patikas, Brett Woods, Marijan Kovacic, Steve Meades and David Rezo, will threaten all clubs.

Still to come into Croatia's outfit will be former Yugoslav international sweeper and current coach Vedran Rozic, Australian international Wally Savor, plus an exciting young goalscoring striker whom Croatia hopes to sign tomorrow.

Olympic earned the wrath of their loyal fans when they fielded a second-string side for their final round match.

Olympic went in without most of their stars, with the exception of midfielder Gary Phillips and left flank striker Chris Kalantzis, who came on in the second half.

Alex Koussas (Mark's even smaller brother) stood out with a gallant, courageous, sparkling performance up-front for Olympic.

Another young player who looked promising was Apia midfielder Ali Reda, an ex-St George youngster, who on many occasions sent his opponent the wrong way with elegant body-fients.

ST GEORGE: Greedy; Skeen, M.O'Shea, Ratcliffe, Koczka; Stone (Ricoy), J.O'Shea, Barton; Slater, Petkovski (Cotton), Marton.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse; A.Kovacic (Rezo), Basic, Vidal, Tomasich; Woods (Kero), M.Kovacic (Rezo), Patikas, Meades (Caleta); Jurin, Arnold.

REFEREE: K. Small.

CROWD: 3,505.

APIA LEICHHARDT: Catlin; Spina, Bertogna, Butler, Brown; De Ceglie, Reda, Morsello; Genovese, Jones, Licata.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Londres; Svinos, Ziras, Hatzopoulos, Spanoudakis; Naumov, Stavropoulos, Phillips; A.Koussas (Kalantzis), Patalis, Pollas (Matzsas).

REFEREE: P.Ramsey.

CROWD: 3,505.



□ ST GEORGE skipper Peter Stone receives the Pindari Challenge Cup from Pindari Interior's managing director, Frank Sbisa.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC SFC

Will be conducting trials for their 1985 Youth League squads every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 5.30pm.

Trials will be held at:

**The Sports Centre,
Centenary Park,
Cnr Church & Lang Sts,
Ashfield, NSW.**



Trials are for Sydney Olympic's Under 13, 14, 15 & 16 teams. In particular, young goalkeepers of all ages are wanted.

For further details, please contact

**Mr Paul Ankudinoff,
Telephone 86 5519**



□ FRANK FARINA



ROOTY HILL SOCCER CLUB

PLAYERS WANTED

Newly promoted to State League Division 3.

Keen players for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Grade plus Under 18 required.

TRAINING — Tuesday, Thursday at 6.45pm,

**CAWARRA PARK,
Eastern Creek.**

ENQUIRIES: **625 3208, 622 5793**

E. SAWINA (secretary)



CHIT CHAT



□ CALVIN DAUNT

A WELL-KNOWN beer advertisement on television features a surf race won by Sydney's Bronte Surf Club.

What has that got to do with soccer?

Well, the Bronte club won the race with a boat named "Sydney Olympic", which was donated to Bronte by Sydney Olympic Soccer Club.

Olympic won the boat in a greyhound race staged in Sydney a few years ago.

□ □ □

FORMER Auburn midfielder Steve Knight hopes to have a big year in the NSL with new club Blacktown City.

Voted NSW Under 21 Player of the Year last season by the Australian Soccer Press Association, Knight has been in dazzling form for the past two years.

"I'm really looking forward to the season and hope that I can secure a spot in the first team," he said.

BUGSY NYS-KOHUS, the veteran Adelaide City captain and full-back — or sweeper — has fronted up for another season.

"We can't get rid of him so we may as well play him for another year," joked coach Edmund Kreft.

Nyskohus seems to get better with age, and was well in the running for top awards in local competitions organised by the Adelaide media.

□ □ □

THE turf at St George Stadium is going to take heavy punishment during next month's World Youth Championship qualifying games.

There will be 15 WYC matches played in 10 days on the one ground.

The Ampol Cup Final and third place playoff will also be played on the ground on the final day of the Youth tournament.

BRISBANE LIONS striker Calvin Daunt returned to his best form last season and the reason has now emerged.

Daunt recently announced his engagement to pretty Joyce Kesson and says her support and encouragement over the past 12 months enabled him to concentrate on his game.

Joyce, incidentally, is the daughter of Iain Kesson, the former Lions Premier League coach who not only helped Daunt through some lean spells in recent years but also developed Lions youngsters Steve Jackson, Allan Hunter, Roddy Vasquez and Clark Anderson.

Kesson is now at premier league club Taringa — Daunt's old club.

□ □ □

PARRAMATTA MELITA had to "borrow" Bill Londos from Sydney Olympic to play in goal in the Eagles' opening Ampol Cup match.

Londos was on loan to Melita last season and played in their NSL Youth team.

Regular keeper Alex McPherson is transferred, while Chris Hummel was also on loan last season, from Canberra Arrows.

□ □ □

NEW ZEALAND international defender Glenn Dods could be back in the NSL on a permanent basis for Adelaide City.

He came out of retirement last year to help out the club when it was hit with injuries, but then quit again when City was back to full strength.

However, he has told coach Edmund Kreft he will consider returning as a regular after the Ampol Cup summer series, which he plans to miss completely.

□ □ □

CONGRATULA-TIONS to Greg Ankudinoff and Karen Rankin, who were married on Sunday and are at present honeymooning in Fiji.

Greg played NSL football and then concentrated on coaching with Sydney Olympic youth teams and school football.

He is a state coaching instructor and this year will be looking after the NSW Under 13 team.

The young couple will be making their home at Lakemba.



□ MARTYN CROOK climbs high for the ball.

FORMER Soccerroo goalkeeper Martyn Crook has launched himself into a serious comeback bid for West Adelaide.

After standing out to develop a new pest control business, he has returned to full training.

However, according to coach Neil McGachey, Gary Sproul will still be first choice between the posts — until Crook gets back to full fitness.

□ □ □

BOB WHITE, president of Brisbane Intermediate League club Newmarket, recently returned from an overseas trip.

The trip included a stopover at Nottingham Forest where he renewed friendships formed last year with several club officials.

During his stay, White talked to Soccerroo Alan Davidson, who has made a big impression at the City Ground.

But White reports: "He is a very homesick boy and asked for Australian soccer followers not to forget him and drop a line if they get a chance. All letters will be answered."

□ □ □

YOUNG Sydney Olympic striker Terry Patalis is one of soccer's dedicated players.

A couple of days after arriving back from a "working holiday" in Greece, Patalis played his first game of the season in the Pindari Cup.

Olympic supporters hope the youngster can regain his goal-scoring touch which made him the find of the 1983 season.

By the way, Patalis has made it overseas. During the off-season, Terry flew to Greece to train with a couple of Greek first division sides.

He was signed up by crack side Olympiakos for next season.

Well done Terry, considering Olympic hardly used you during 1984.

ANDREW BERNAL, captain of Australia's World Youth Championship squad, is a prime target for National League talent scouts but the boy from the Australian Institute of Sport is in no hurry to join a club.

The talented sweeper wants to keep his options open — and could decide to play for a European team, bypassing the NSL altogether.

He has Spanish connections and his name has already been noted by Real Madrid.

Youth team coach Jim Shoulder feels the Young Soccerroos should have no problems under Bernal's leadership.

"Andrew is a very dedicated young fellow. I'm sure he will lead the youth side with distinction," Shoulder said.

BLACKTOWN CITY midfielder Stuart Selva has discovered the most difficult way to train during the off-season.

While holidaying in Perth over Christmas, Smurf thought the best way to keep fit was chasing kangaroos near his sister's home!

□ □ □

DURING the summer break, one of the best-known people in Sydney soccer passed away.

Tony Horstead, who wrote under the name "Hotspur" in the Daily Mirror, was the best-known Soccer writer in Sydney for many years. He did a lot to bring much-needed publicity to the code.

Over the years, he made many friends in the game and very few enemies.

At his funeral, former NSW Soccer Federation presidents

Gaston Bauer, Jim Bayutti and Frank Parsons, who delivered the eulogy, were among many mourners.

ASW extends sympathy to Diane Horstead and Tony's sons Simon and Timothy on their loss.

□ □ □

FAILURE to find a suitable Soccerroo right-back on the world tour has opened the door for St George's David Skeen.

Last year the gritty defender was pencilled in as a candidate for the position along with South Melbourne's Alan Davidson.

While Davidson went on to sign with English club Nottingham Forest, Skeen missed the tour after spending most of the season on the sidelines because of a serious motorcycle accident.



□ DAVID SKEEN (white shirt) in a race with Tony Morsello.

NSW AMPOL CUP

THAMNIDIS TURNS ON THE SKILL

BY FRANK COLETTA

A MARK HOLLOWAY goal gave Manly a deserved 1-0 victory over their former State League rivals Inter Monaro, who are newly-promoted to the National League.

In what was a dour and at times lifeless affair, Holloway's 24th minute three metre effort sealed Inter's fate.

Neither side was at full strength or for that matter full match fitness. Monaro were especially handicapped, being without players of the calibre of Tony Brennan (suspended), Baz Giampaolo and Angelo Ambrosino (contractual disputes).

The Manly side dominated the first half with new signing Jimmy Campbell from Dee Why showing some good touches, useful speed off the mark and tenacity in the heart of the midfield.

Manly did not have it all their own way, however, as Monaro's shining light, 30-year-old Chris Thamnidis tested the Manly defence.

The goal came when Bobby Pagano broke away down the right and centred to the unmarked Holloway who scored.

Shortly after the interval, Campbell was again involved, putting a beautiful through-ball into the path of centre-forward Davison, who shot poorly, sending the ball onto the roof of the Marconi Club!

But for the rest of the half Inter completely dominated, so much so that Manly did not have another goal attempt in the second half.

This was about the time Thamnidis started to show his undoubted ball skills. He continually mesmerised the Manly defence with uncanny close ball control.

On one occasion he made a truly amazing bustling run. After being knocked from pillar to post, he continued to ride several desperate tackles, beat four Manly men and crossed, but not one Monaro player was in sight in the area. Just for his troubles Thamnidis ran into the fence!

Man of the match: Monaro's acquisition from Yugal **CHRIS THAMNIDIS** is the type of player the NSL has been yearning for. He is an entertaining player who has eye-catching ball skills coupled with a refreshing attacking approach.

MANLY WARRINGAH: I. Barker, Pierce, S. Dick, J. Dick, Foy, Pagano, Steven, Campbell, Davison (J. Barker 65), Holloway, Stuart.

INTER-MONARO: Hocking, Domazetovich, Galletti, Santolin, Francis, Willox (Djordjeski 57), Thamnidis, Carbone, Cluffatelli (C. Ambrosino 49), Valeri, Fiorese.

REFEREE: A. Townsend.

CROWD: 820.

DEGNEY'S DELIGHT

BY KEITH GILMOUR

ALTHOUGH Rockdale Ilinden's winning goal followed the dismissal of Marconi skipper Tony Henderson, the State League club looked the part in their 1-0 win at Marconi Stadium on Friday night.

They had the ball in the net through Ross Brown in the 13th minute but referee Tim Davies ruled that he had punched it home.

It was the same player who nudged the ball into the goal in the 70th minute. Paul Degney's free-kick from the left touchline fell amongst a group of players after Marconi keeper Bruce James had dropped it, and Brown did the rest.

His namesake, Marconi's Rod, had a whole hatful of chances but didn't bang one home.

The way in which Rockdale handled a full-strength Marconi pointed to their ability to set up a highly successful season for themselves.

They matched Marconi in all but both shooting power and the extra touches of skill put in by Tommy McCulloch.

Henderson was unhappy with his send-off. After an earlier caution he deliberately handled the ball and blasted it away before referee Davies could get the free-kick settled.

Tactically Ilinden packed the midfield and Marconi found it difficult to thread through the mass of players.

It should be said, however, that four or five of the Marconi players will not have a worse game all year.

Man of the match: Rockdale left-back **PAUL DEGNEY**, who handled things nicely in this match against his former club.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Kotzohambos, Degney, G. Wilson (Nikolovski), D. Wilson, Youssaph, Blackburn, Nasteski, Slaveski, Brown (Trajanovski 76), Risteovski, Karanilovski.

MARCONI: James, Carter, Rizzotto, Calderan, Henderson, Mason, McCulloch, Lowe, Brown, Jankovics, Sharne.

REFEREE: T. Davies.

CROWD: 820.

APIA TOSS OLYMPIC

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

APIA LEICHHARDT tossed Sydney Olympic out of the NSW 1985 Ampol Cup last Sunday at St George Stadium with a 2-1 win in front of 2,980 spectators.

In the space of 60 seconds, Apia bombarded the Olympic net with two flashing goals that ultimately proved to be the foundations to their most deserved victory, despite fielding an understrength side.

Without stars Johnny Bradley, Peter Tredinnick and Ian Gray (all on the transfer list), Apia more than held Olympic.

Olympic played without injured skipper Peter Raskopoulos. Missing also were Gary Phillips, Graham Jennings, Marshall Soper and Mark Koussas, still to agree to terms with the club.

In the 23rd minute, Apia's left midfielder Robbie De Ceglie pushed a short pass through on the left side of the penalty area for striker Tony Genovese to crash home a close-range shot.

Sixty seconds later, from a long kick by Apia goalkeeper Bobby Catlin, Olympic centre-back Alex Lampropoulos headed the ball down in front of him.

To his horror, it landed in the path of Apia's elegant central midfielder Ali Reda, who read the bounce well and from 35 metres out, with strong wind assistance, half-volleyed a magnificent hit into the Olympic net.

Olympic's midfield of Naumov, Katholos and Svinos failed to dominate the battle in the middle of the pitch against Apia's makeshift trio of Morsello, Reda and De Ceglie.

Nine minutes from the end, referee Richard Lorenc awarded a penalty, taken by Theodorakopoulos.

Although goalkeeper Catlin saved the shot with his boot, Theodorakopoulos followed through to smash the rebound high into net.

Man of the match: Apia's central-linkman, 19-year-old **ALI REDA**, who starred with lovely

touches, supported well, tackled strongly and distributed accurately into clean spaces.

APIA LEICHHARDT: Catlin; Spina, Bertogna, Butler (Morsion 43), Brown; Morsello, Reda, De Ceglie; Genovese, Jones, Caban.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier; Johnston, Lampropoulos, Dakos, Hanliotis (Spanoudakis 41); Naumov, Katholos, Svinos; Patalis (Matsias 63), Theodorakopoulos, Kalantzis.

REFEREE: R. Lorenc.

CROWD: 2,980.



□ NICK THEODORAKOPOULOS



□ PAUL DEGNEY

MAKESHIFT BLACKTOWN SCRAPE IN

BY BRAD EARL

BLACKTOWN CITY scrambled to a 2-1 victory against an aggressive young Uruguay Auburn side at St George Stadium on Sunday.

Admittedly, it wasn't the Demons side which will contest the National League this year, with defenders Chris Dunleavy, Paul Daley, midfielder Steve Knight, attackers John Bradley, Phil O'Connor and Adam Sandy all unavailable on Sunday.

Blacktown fielded a young team, with Martin Bourke, Ian Shaw, Brett Thornthwaite and Johnny Larkin enthusiastic and adventurous going forward.

However, their efforts lacked direction after former Socceroo midfielder Gary Byrne was taken to hospital after 20 minutes with broken ribs.

At that stage the NSL outfit were a goal up, following Thornthwaite breaking clear in the goalmouth in the seventh minute and squaring the ball across the face of goal for Bourke to touch it in.

Bourke's inexperience let Uruguay back in the game in the 31st minute, when he handled a swerving cross inside the penalty area.

Bulky striker Tony Oshana blasted the penalty home to equalise for Uruguay, sending the large contingent of South American supporters into rapturous excitement.

However, Blacktown were more effective throughout the first half and regained the lead two minutes after half-time, when Thornthwaite crossed the ball from the right side of the penalty area



□ THORNTHWAITE

for Shaw to score.

As the second half progressed, Uruguay increased in confidence and they were assisted by some shoddy defensive work by Blacktown.

Although the State League side showed their inexperience inside the box, they managed some good build-ups, particularly on the right side where Leandro Varela and Carlos Donoso combined well.

Man of the match: **BRETT THORNTHWAITE** for his efforts in laying on Blacktown City's two goals.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Hoare; Skellern (Hutton 75), Shaw, Wheatley, Pointer, Bourke, Byrne (Rasmussen 23), Hormazabal, Plumb, Larkin, Thornthwaite.

URUGUAY AUBURN: Rosano; Palma, Johnson, Javier, Fernandez, Planinic; Varela, Jorge Fernandez, Vega (Encinas 47), Donoso, Oshana, Ollvaros (Pearson 55).

REFEREE: R. Doenau.

CROWD: 2,980.

NSW AMPOL CUP

ROUND 2

Friday, February 1, 1985
MARCONI STADIUM

7.00 pm

Wollongong City v Penrith City

8.30 pm

Croatia Sydney v Melita Eagles

Sunday, February 3, 1985
ST GEORGE STADIUM

4.30 pm Fairy Meadow v

Bankstown National

6.00 pm

St George v Sydney City



1985: THE YEAR AHEAD



NATIONAL Soccer League clubs are gearing up for the 1985 season, with most clubs signing new players in their quest to build a championship-winning team.

Today, ASW's reporters bring you up to date with all the pre-season action in the NSL.



NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED

ROSEBUDS STABLE AND OPTIMISTIC

BY NEIL JAMESON

A COMBINATION of new and old faces, stability plus sky-high morale is responsible for a new move of optimism among the ranks of NSL Cup holders Newcastle Rosebud United.

Coach Willie Gallagher has retained all players who completed last season with the certainty that he will have strengthened his squad by the time the 1985 series kicks off.

Since pre-season training on January 2, Gallagher has been enthused by the commitment and zeal of his charges — both old and new.

Sighted at training was former Newcastle KB midfielder Malcolm McClelland, who spent

last season with the Maitland Club but is keen for an NSL return.

Newcastle look set to secure Brett Fawkes, a midfielder in Cardiff's 1984 minor premiership side. Fawkes topped last year's first division goalscoring table and was named Northern Federation Player of the Year.

Derek Bull, a forceful centre-back from Belmont-Swansea, and speedy Highfields-Azzuri winger Dale Robertson have also

been added to Gallagher's training squad.

If Gallagher is forced to make adjustments it could be in the full-back department where Englishman Andy Thompson is experiencing visa problems and Ralph Maier is the subject of speculation about a move to Marconi.

Maier's future at Newcastle depends on his chances of being accepted for a course at a local college. If unsuccessful he could join the growing ranks of the Newcastle "mafia" at Bossley Park.

Gallagher has not yet found a suitable replacement for tricky striker Derek Todd who returned to England late last season, but for the time being the remarkably versatile Simon Brandt is almost certain to play up-front.

Newcastle's season kicks off on February 16 with the now traditional Prime Minister's Cup clash against Canberra, to be played for the first time under the new lights at Adamstown.



□ SIMON BRANDT: forward role.

MARCONI

MONEY PROBLEMS WITH KEY MEN

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MARCONI, the giant Italian-backed Sydney outfit, still has not "settled business" with all the 1985 NSL playing staff, creating headaches for re-appointed coach Les Scheinflug and re-elected president Ron Cavagnino.

This year, Marconi have taken the intelligent step to avert a financial disaster by wiping out all signing-on fees, but stacking win-bonuses offered to players.

Marconi is the fifth club to adopt a "no signing-on fee" policy in the NSL.

Goalkeeper Bruce James, defenders Joe Rizzotto, Paul Carter, Steve Calderan and strikers Peter Sharne and David Lowe are all under contract for

1985, but another four are still not able to digest Marconi's new contractual policy diet.

International centre-back and club skipper Tony Henderson, midfielders Mark Jankovic and Tommy McCulloch plus striker Rod Brown have not agreed contract terms.

McCulloch's future has been somewhat clouded by talk of going to England to play with either Southampton or Tom Docherty's Wolves.

Vic Bozanic, Marconi's right-back penalty king, is still not fixed up.

On loan last year to Apia Leichhardt, he is transfer-listed at \$20,000. Apia originally were buying Bozanic, but after 10 months of deliberation, they still have not decided.

Eddie Krncevic, currently playing in Belgium, wants to return to Australia to enable him to play for the national team in World Cup elimination

matches this year.

Apia's crack left-side linkman, Peter Tredinnick, is known to want to sign for Marconi, and the obvious solution would be a clean swap — Tredinnick for

Bozanic.

Left-winger Rene Licata, training with Apia, is transfer-listed by Marconi for \$20,000, whilst Lee Sterrey, Sydney Croatia's sweeper or centre-back, has been training with Marconi, with tough little Atti Carbone is now playing for newly-promoted Inter-Monaro.

Marconi is out to

threaten Sydney City's NSL title this season and the quicker Scheinflug and Cavagnino clean up the contracts department, the quicker Marconi can settle down to the serious business of NSL football.

CSR-Gyprock, will again be Marconi's major sponsor, with a slight increase in fees,

MARCONI require an efficient, diligent gear steward for their 1985 NSL squad.

Applicants contact Marconi secretary-manager Keith Charles or NSL coach Les Scheinflug this week, on telephone number 610 2222.

Experienced person preferred.



□ EDDIE KRNCVIC in action for Australia against New Zealand. Krncevic may return to Australia to attempt to make the Socceroo World Cup side.

APIA JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Registration Day — Saturday Feb 2

- All players welcome — Under 6 to Under 16
- Between 1pm & 5pm at the APIA Club Ltd, Frazer St, Leichhardt
- Any enquiries please phone

Mr Vince Aiello,

799 8997

FARINA JOINS A SPEEDY ATTACK

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THAT remarkable change of outlook that swung Sydney City across from an importer to a developer of Australian talent will stand the club in good stead in 1985.

Players such as Jean-Paul de Marigny, Paul Kay, Grant Lee and Gerardo Gomez have been blended into the team and show outstanding potential.

The other aspect that redounds to Sydney City's favour is the degree of stability in the squad and youth teams.

At this stage the only possible loss is all-rounder Jim Cant, in whom Canberra has shown interest.

Whether the \$5,000

offer would win Cant is doubtful. From this valuable player's viewpoint it would overcome the need to travel up to Sydney from his Canberra home.

Grand final losers in the Northern Division in 1984, Sydney City has gained the precocious talents of striker Frank Farina for a bargain basement price.

Farina is due back in Australia after trialling with Portsmouth following the Soccer

tour.

No Australian player has greater ability in breaking down defences, but Slickers coach Eddie Thomson has the task of honing away at the rough edges.

The sheer speed of Farina, Kosmina and Lee at the front with the midfield balance of Joe Watson, Kay and Murray Barnes and a sound defence points to a successful season.

And as back-ups there will be young AIS player Robert Hooker and evergreen goalkeeper Todd Clarke.

Clarke has sorted out his business problems and will challenge Soccer reserve keeper Tony Pezzano for his place.

This is a club that deserves greater support. Regardless of that, look to them for another auspicious season.



□ FRANK FARINA shows his shooting ability for Australia.

APIA LEICHHARDT



BRADLEY, GRAY LEAD EXODUS

Bottalico attacks players' demands

BY DAVID JACK

LIKE many other National League clubs, Apia Leichhardt have had a traumatic close-season, attempting to re-sign top players without having a lot of money to pay with.

Indeed, the 1984 season was hardly over before big names like Ian Gray and John Bradley were seeking transfers.

Coach Fil Bottalico, an uncompromising character, believes players are demanding too much.

Bottalico reasons that cash must come in before it goes into players' pockets.

"Last season, we paid everyone — nobody went short," he said.

"If players do not want to play for Apia, they can leave. We'll get replacements.

"If and when they do leave, the money will be spent on new players."

Leichhardt, despite their problems over player contracts, are confident of having a good 1985.

"We finished joint third last year and I am sure

we will do better this year," said Bottalico.

Leichhardt's players were paid \$400 a win in 1984. Compared to the money being paid by most other clubs — some were unable to fork out anything — the cash rewards were not bad.

Most of Leichhardt's financial headaches would be solved if the large body of support, which used to follow the team loyally, could be lured back.

The fans did not take kindly to last season's switch of venue for home matches. Henson Park left a lot to be desired.

Lambert Park, for all its deficiencies, has always been the ground regarded by Apia supporters as "home".

After a long wait, the ground is now undergoing much-needed renovation.

PENRITH CITY

WALLACE IS CONFIDENT

BY BRAD EARL

AFTER a traumatic summer in which Penrith City came within hours of folding, coach Willie Wallace is approaching the difficult task in front of him with confidence.

Wallace believes the Panthers will have a better squad than last year, when the club finished seventh.

"With additions in the right places, we'll be as good a side as any this year," Wallace said.

His priority is to strengthen the midfield, the biggest problem area in 1984.

He at least has no worries in defence, even allowing for the loss of Paul Daley to Blacktown City.

Jeff Ainsworth will replace Daley as sweeper, but he was one of the few midfield successes for Penrith last season and his influence will be missed in the centre of the park.

Full-backs Peter Brogan and Mickey Cross and dominating centre-back Dave McIntosh all performed well in 1984, and with Ainsworth they should form a strong back-line once again.

Goalkeeper Mike Gibson is back after spending the summer in England training with Second Division club Manchester City.

The other major loss is skilful striker Roy Cotton, so a lot of the burden in attack will fall on the shoulders of former Australian Youth team captain Ian Hunter, who was disappointing last season.

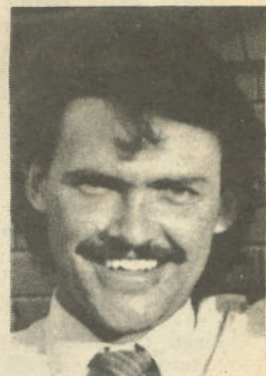
Right midfielder Ian Wotherspoon and striker Brian Jackson are returning from Britain, but David Fitzharris, Peter Nix and Dennis Colusso have not been retained by Wallace.

"I expect young players like Michael Toohey

and David Shute to be pushing for places in the first team this year," Wallace concluded.



□ WILLIE WALLACE: confident.



□ JEFF AINSWORTH: new sweeper.



□ IAN HUNTER: attack burden.

WOLLONGONG CITY

WOLVES BOSS PLANS IMPROVEMENT

BY PHIL MURPHY

COACH Adrian Alston takes Wollongong City into the 1985 season knowing they are rated "favourites" for relegation, but he claims the Wolves are a safe bet to retain their National League status.

"People have written us off because we finished last in 1984 but I feel the experience gained by our younger players last season will be the key to a big improvement," Alston said.

"The likes of Alex Bundalo, David Green, Peter Kotamanidis and Scott Dickson learned a lot the hard way as we struggled last year."

Alston's optimism is balanced out by the fact the club seems certain to lose more experienced players from last year's squad.

John Fleming and

Glenn Fontana have taken up coaching roles with Fairy Meadow while the future of key midfielder Larry Gaffney is still uncertain.

Striker Peter Beggs has been training with the squad but hasn't signed, and it seems Alston will again have to blood several youngsters.

The club is pinning their hopes in new signings Dominic Gianonne and Bernie Godzik improving their goalscoring record this season.

Gianonne has switched from Marconi and will play on the left side up-front, while former Celtic, Brighton and Apia Leichhardt striker Godzik has been signed from Croatia.

Alston is also hopeful of signing two more experienced players, including an English forward.



□ PETER BEGGS: not signed.

'NEW CHUMS' LOOK FOR EXPERIENCE

BY KEN HEALEY

UNDER new coach Josef Procop, who transformed Banks-town in the late rounds of the NSW State League last season, Monaro has invited back all the players who helped it win that competition.

Only full-back Harry Williams has failed to appear at training, though Tony Brennan and Isaac Farrell have just started to train. Both were suspect for keenness last year.

Baz Giampaolo is in the centre of a contractual wrangle with his former club Apia Leichhardt, who stipulated that he couldn't join an NSL club when he transferred to the then State League team last season.



□ CARLO AMBROSINO

Prior to last Friday's opening Ampol Cup match, Monaro signed midfielder Attilio Carbone from Marconi and veteran winger Chris Thamnidis from Yugal.

A new young player who should make the grade is Carlo Ambrosino from the Australian Institute of Sport.

Others, from Canberra Arrows' youth team, are striker Claudio Ciuffetelli and midfielder Joe Gagetti.

John Walsh and Angelo Ambrosino are still to be bought from Canberra, but there is dismay over the \$5,000 price tag on Ambrosino. Both players were on loan last season.

On the other hand, Monaro again look strong up-front with Walter Valeri and Andrew Monterosso showing real promise.

Experienced keeper Steve Hoszowski has bought out his Canberra Arrows contract and is training. He will challenge last year's custodian Michael Hocking, who was his understudy for a season at the Arrows.

The club is realistic about its major aim, which is to escape relegation in its first NSL season. Playing home matches at Seiffert Oval should guarantee the comfort of the fans, who were thin on the ground last year despite the team's splendid home record.

'WE'LL BE UP THERE,' SCHAEFER PREDICTS

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC coach Manfred Schaefer has reassured Olympic's large band of followers that they will continue to be a force in Australian soccer.

Olympic enjoyed their best NSL season to date winning the Grand Final and losing the national playoff to South Melbourne.

Schaefer, who has enjoyed a successful one-and-a-half year period at the club, is positive Olympic can take everything in their stride.

"We will be amongst the leaders," he said.

"We have the goods to carry on from last year's good work."

The biggest setback to the club has been the \$25,000 transfer of midfielder Jim Patikas to Sydney Croatia.

Fellow Socceroos Peter Raskopoulos, Marshall Soper, Peter Katholos and Graham Jennings are yet to sign for the club but Schaefer sees no problems.

"They all look like signing in the next week or so. The only real doubt has been Marshall Soper," Schaefer said.

The loss of Mike Coady and Martyn Rogers, who both returned to England, has left a big gap in the defence but the former World Cup defender feels he has capable replacements.

"We have two of the best young defenders in the country in Tony Dakos and Alex Lambropoulos.

"The only real worry we have is filling the right-back position.

"We have signed Stuart Johnston from Melita Eagles but there are a couple of youngsters who will fight for the position," Schaefer added.

Olympic's first grade talent doesn't just lie with the above-mentioned names. Promising youngsters Gary Philips, Terry Patalis, Nick Theodorakopoulos and Chris Kalantzis have all signed and will play an important part for the side this year.

One of the biggest reasons for Olympic's success in recent years has been their strong youth policy.

Schaefer will continue to give talented youngsters a chance.

"When you think about it we have a fairly big first grade squad," he said.

"Don't forget we have young players like Arthur Svyenos, Bobby Naumov and George Haniotis knocking on the door of first grade positions."



□ PETER RASKOPOULOS

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS

Plenty of quality, but a thin squad

BY KEN HEALEY

THE loss of an Arrow and three stars is the major news from Canberra.

There will also be a mass exodus of unwanted players.

When James Hardie Industries took over from NSW Lotto Management as principal sponsor at the end of last year, it was inevitable that the Lotto Arrow would disappear from Canberra's name.

The team is now officially called Canberra City Olympians.

Canberra was most reluctant to lose a trio of star players — George Christopoulos to Heidelberg, Frank Farina to Sydney City and Alan Reis, who has won a job promotion to Brisbane after failing to negotiate a satisfactory playing contract in Hong Kong.

The departure of midfielders Steve Hogg, also to Brisbane, and Andrew Brockbank to England leaves Tommy Sermanni, John Mihailidis and Steve Bryant as the only midfielders on the club's books.

To plug that gap, coach Doug Collins is after Luciano Fabrizio, transfer-listed by Brisbane City.

Canberra-based Jimmy Cant may finally leave Sydney City, but Collins is more likely to use him in defence if he joins.

Peter Burke expects to return as stopper after a broken leg, after last week receiving the news that he has been given a free transfer from the now-defunct Newcastle KB United.

Terry Byrne, who turned out a couple of times as player-coach of the youth squad late last season, hopes that his repaired cruciate and medial ligaments will let him make a comeback.

In attack Manis Lamond and Hilton Phillips, with just a few senior games between them, must take over from Farina and Reis.

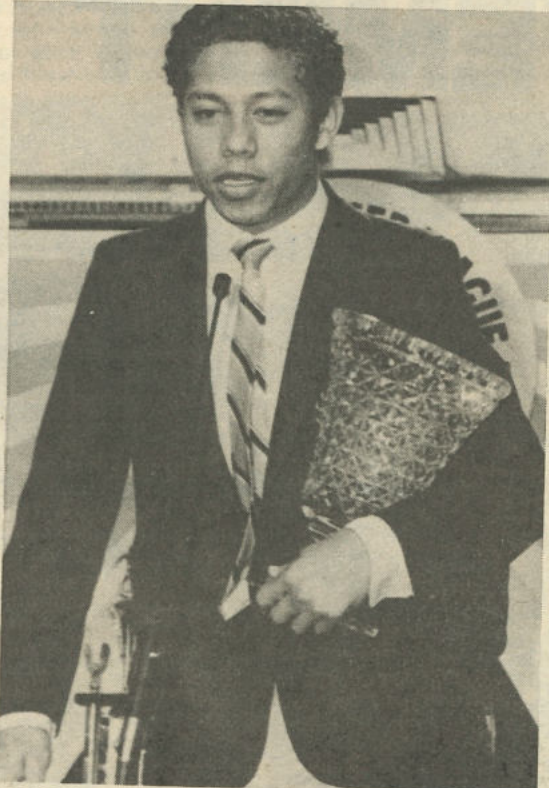
Collins has also made an offer to Preston's Graham Heys for the spot beside big Marko Perinovic.

Canberra should have enough money to buy a key player or two with income from transfers, but unless Sermanni or Burke is soon granted permanent residence, Collins will not be able

to sign a new visa player as a result of his pre-Christmas scouting trip to England.

Until some purchases

are made, the squad looks strong in quality but alarmingly thin in numbers.



□ MANIS LAMOND is presented with his award as 1984 Youth League Player of the Year.



□ ALEX LAMPROPOULOS (left) challenges Andrew Koczka.

ALL SET FOR NSL TITLE CHALLENGE

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

EDDIE THOMSON be warned. Sydney Croatia is already getting geared to threaten your championship aspirations for the 1985 NSL season.

Newly-elected club president Tony Basic has set the wheels in motion off the pitch

with improvements to King Tomislav Park completed.

The playing area has

been extended to 110 x 70 metres at a cost of \$60,000, and floodlighting installation was completed last week at an overall cost of another \$60,000.

And as far as Croatia's NSL playing staff for 1985, Basic's soccer committee has not been idle during the off-season.

Croatia transferred Kenny Boden at \$6,000 and Nelio Borges and Lee Sterrey at \$10,000. Bernie Godzik has moved to Wollongong City at a fee of \$2,000.

Croatia's biggest news for the new season is the signing of Sydney Olympic's pacey mid-field international Jimmy Patikas and the likelihood of former Hajduk Split captain and sweeper and Yugo-

slav international, Vedran Rozic, resuming his playing career.

Rozic, who is Croatia's coach, had his registration with the Australian Soccer Federation blocked last year due to inconsistencies with his clearance from Yugoslavia.

When Rozic first came to Australia in the middle of last year to play for Sydney Croatia, he arrived with only a clearance from his former club, Hajduk Split. He did not obtain a clearance from his state federation, thus impeding his international clearance by the Yugoslavia Soccer Federation.

With Rozic covering club captain Bruno Vidacic at the back, Patikas slotting in alongside Marijan Kovacic and David Rezo in midfield, and the firepower up-front of Graham Arnold and Zeljko Jurin, Croatia looms as a most threatening force for the NSL championship.

And don't be surprised to see Croatia sign up a crack goalscorer to assist Arnold.



□ BRUNO VIDAIC: Croatia's captain.

BLACKTOWN CITY

DEMONS GO FOR DEPTH

BY BRAD EARL

BLACKTOWN CITY's managerial team of coach Casey de Bruin and officials Peter Thorne and Alan Irving has laid the foundations for the Demons to launch a major challenge for honours in 1985.

"Last year we needed more experience in the side, and this year our aim has been to get a bit more depth," de Bruin said.

Michael McLaughlin is the only regular NSL player who has left the club, although Stuart Selva was placed on the transfer list last week.

Veterans Bob Mountford and Clive Eaton have not been retained, while versatile youngster Michael Quarmby is also up for transfer.

New signings are defender Paul Daley (from Penrith), midfielder Steve Knight (Auburn Uruguay) and midfielder or striker John Bradley (Apia Leichhardt).

Ricci Hormazabal, who played for the Demons in their first two seasons in the NSL, is back with the club after three seasons as a full-time professional in his home country, Chile.

De Bruin is naturally very pleased to add the Scottish skills of Bradley to his squad.

"He can play in mid-field or attack, and should complement strikers such as Phil O'Connor, Johnny Larkin and Adam Sandy," de Bruin enthused.

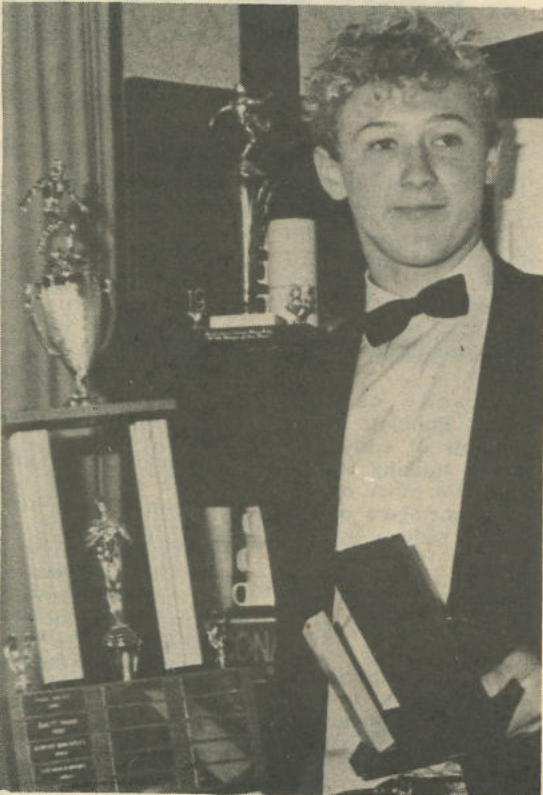
His other two sign-

ings, Daley and Knight, are young players with big futures in the game. Daley won the NSW Under 21 Player of the Year award in 1981, and Knight won the same award last season.

"Daley gives us a bit of youth and more variety in the back-four, while Knight should

give us more punch in the middle of the park," de Bruin said.

Blacktown's Player of the Year last season, Chris Dunleavy, is expected to return prior to the start of the NSL after breaking his collarbone in four places in a road accident recently.



□ STEVE KNIGHT with the trophy he won as NSW U21 Player of the Year in 1984.

ST GEORGE

Cotton and one more to boost the Saints

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

ST GEORGE coach Frank Arok doesn't want to be reminded of last year.

After winning the NSL title in 1983, the Saints slumped badly last season and at one stage were possible relegation candidates.

Arok is confident Saints will bounce back this year and take everything in their stride. "We'll be chasing everything," he said.

"Last year was very unfortunate but we've strengthened. We have signed experienced players, goalkeeper Ron Tilsed and striker Roy Cotton and two promising juniors Paul Darlington and Geoff Biscaya have re-joined the club."

Although Arok signed Cotton from Penrith, he is still looking for a central striker to put the finishing touches to the squad.

Another boost for the Saints is the return of defender Robbie O'Shea after a long injury.

Along with brothers Michael and John, Soceroos David Ratcliffe, Terry Greedy and Robbie Slater, St George have a very experienced look about them.

Add to the above list, veteran striker Dez Marton, midfielders Peter Stone and Mark

Barton and St George should be able to match all the top sides this year.

Arok has been particularly impressed with the youngsters at the

club.

"We have two very exciting goalkeepers in Keith Warren and Angelo Rodic," he said.

"Scott Watson and Chris High are two

others who look sharp.

"They've just spent two months in Brazil and it has made a big difference to their game."



□ MARK BARTON (right), the St George midfielder, tackles Newcastle's Derek Todd.

McGACHEY HOPES TO RECAPTURE SPIRIT OF '78

BY TOM McKAIN

WEST ADELAIDE kick off the year with the most essential ingredient for any club — cash.

With close to \$800,000 from their record-breaking Miss Hellas Quest followed by the sale of its clubrooms in the city, the Greek-backed club is off and running.

But it has not thrown money around on new players.

A large slice of its new-found capital has gone into new buildings in another part of the Adelaide city area, where cash will come from rents, and the use of another set of clubrooms which are under construction in a renovation programme.

And there is a new coach — former mid-field star Neil

McGachey, who retired as a player at the end of last season and takes over from Sam Salabasidis.

The latter did not apply for the job as he said the club was not willing to shop interstate or overseas for star players.

West is aiming for one big name — England's Frank Worthington.

And McGachey is happy with the men he has signed from the local Rothmans League First Division.

He was captain of the team which won the 1978 Philips League title, and hopes to come

close this year, aiming for the top five — "at least".

And he's happy to report that he has lost none of last year's squad — in fact he has received a bonus with former Socceroo goalkeeper Martyn Crook making his long awaited comeback after "retiring" to establish a new pest control business.

The new boys are Englishman Gary Price, a striker from the SA Croatia club, winger Alan Scott, a Scot from Azzurri, and giant youngster Les Matiscek, Australian-born defender who was with Campbelltown.



□ NEIL McGACHEY: new coach.

KREFT WANTS 'BIG NAME' TO PLUG GAP

BY TOM McKAIN

ADELAIDE CITY come up for this year's NSL season with a squad which certainly has more depth than last year, a much lower cash deficit, and a significant gap in its line-up.

The gap is caused by the non-signing of the allowed visa player for this season.

But it could be filled by the time the season kicks off.

"We are looking for someone special," said coach Edmund Kreft, appointed for another term.

"Our overseas scouts are working for us and I'm hoping they can come up with a big-name player."

Meanwhile, the club reported a large slice of its debts had been cleared and that it should be back in the black by the end of the year.

Kreft has been prudent in his buying.

The biggest splurge was on Adrian Santrac, a talented midfielder with the local Beograd First Division club.

He had a brief run with West Adelaide under Alan Vest three years ago, but was not the Englishman's style of player.

And City got another boost with the return of ironman midfielder Brian Northcote.

Out for two years with knee and back problems, he is back in training and looking stronger than ever in trial games.



□ BRIAN NORTHCOTE

Colin Miller, a young midfielder from the Para Hills club has also been signed, and his brilliant, but temperamental goalkeeping brother David, is almost certain to sign after starring for Azzurri in the SA First Division.

Salisbury striker Fortu Constanzo, who has the potential to be a top scorer, has also been trialling and a transfer was being negotiated as we went to press.

Mike Donnelly, an all-rounder from Azzurri, has bought out his own contract and looks like being a regular full-back for City after some powerful games in trial matches.

WRIGHT AND CO WILL LEAD LIONS TROPHY HUNT



□ DANNY WRIGHT: lucrative offer.

BY GREG RUSSELL

ENTHUSIASM and confidence are at an all-time high as Brisbane Lions prepare for this season.

Lions finished in a blaze of glory last year and club officials are confident their exciting young side can pick up where it left off in October. They predict the team is capable of winning at least one major trophy this season.

Last year will go down as one of Lions' greatest. Following the appointment of Gordon Arrowsmith to take over from Harry Noon, Lions went from third bottom to finish fourth, and they were eliminated from the National Conference finals on penalties only.

But it has been a desperate off-season battle to keep together the young Lions team, which club officials rate "the best young side in Australia".

Lucrative offers from Sydney and Melbourne were made for no less than five Lions players — Alan Hunter, Steve Jackson, Danny Wright, Russell Stewart and Roddy Vasquez.

But Lions managed to stave off the approaches. Only one player, utility Ray Jun-

na, elected to leave Richlands.

Junna, signed midway through last season from Canberra Arrows, has moved across the river to Brisbane City.

The others stayed largely because there is a feeling of success in the air at Richlands. But club officials admit: "If we don't go well this season and gain recognition for it, we will have no hope of stopping many of our players going south next year."

Because Lions believe they have one of the best young sides in the country, the club did not actively seek to buy players, but several promising locals — impressed by last season's run — turned up at Richlands for pre-season trials.

And the squad has been boosted by the return of strikers Phil Redmond and Wright, who missed much of last season with serious injuries. Australian Youth squad member Richard Bassingthwaite is another talented player who will be pushing for selection this season.

Hard task for new coach

BY GREG RUSSELL

AFTER three seasons that have been Brisbane City finish no higher than third bottom, new coach Tony Lowndes faces an unenviable task at Spencer Park this season.

And the man who boasts he has had "more clubs than Jack Nicklaus" has not had the best of introductions to the National League.

Already captain Frank Pimblett failed to show at early pre-season training and at least two other experienced members of last year's side — goalkeeper Kim Wishart and full-back Luciano Fabrizio — have asked to be put on the transfer list.

The few experienced campaigners left at Spencer Park are unhappy that the side has not been strengthened by the signing of class players.

But Lowndes is de-

termined to work to a five-year plan and claims it is ad hoc buying in recent years that has left City in its present sorry state.

Only one NSL player has been signed so far, Lions midfielder Ray Junna.

Lowndes, no doubt because the club has told him it has little money to spend on players, has invited many local players to trial. And while several show potential, the National League is a massive step-up for some of them.

Trial lists include former Lions NSL players Gerry Lindsay, who has played Premier League with Ipswich United for the past three years, and Craig

Low, now with Olympic. Other local players without NSL experience trying out at Spencer Park include David Costa (Mount Gravatt), Mike Cernaka (Olympic), Wayne Corbett (Wynnum) and Kerry Felsch (Newmarket).

Undoubtedly it will be a tough year for the club, which also has had a major transition at board level, with most of the experienced directors deciding not to seek re-election.

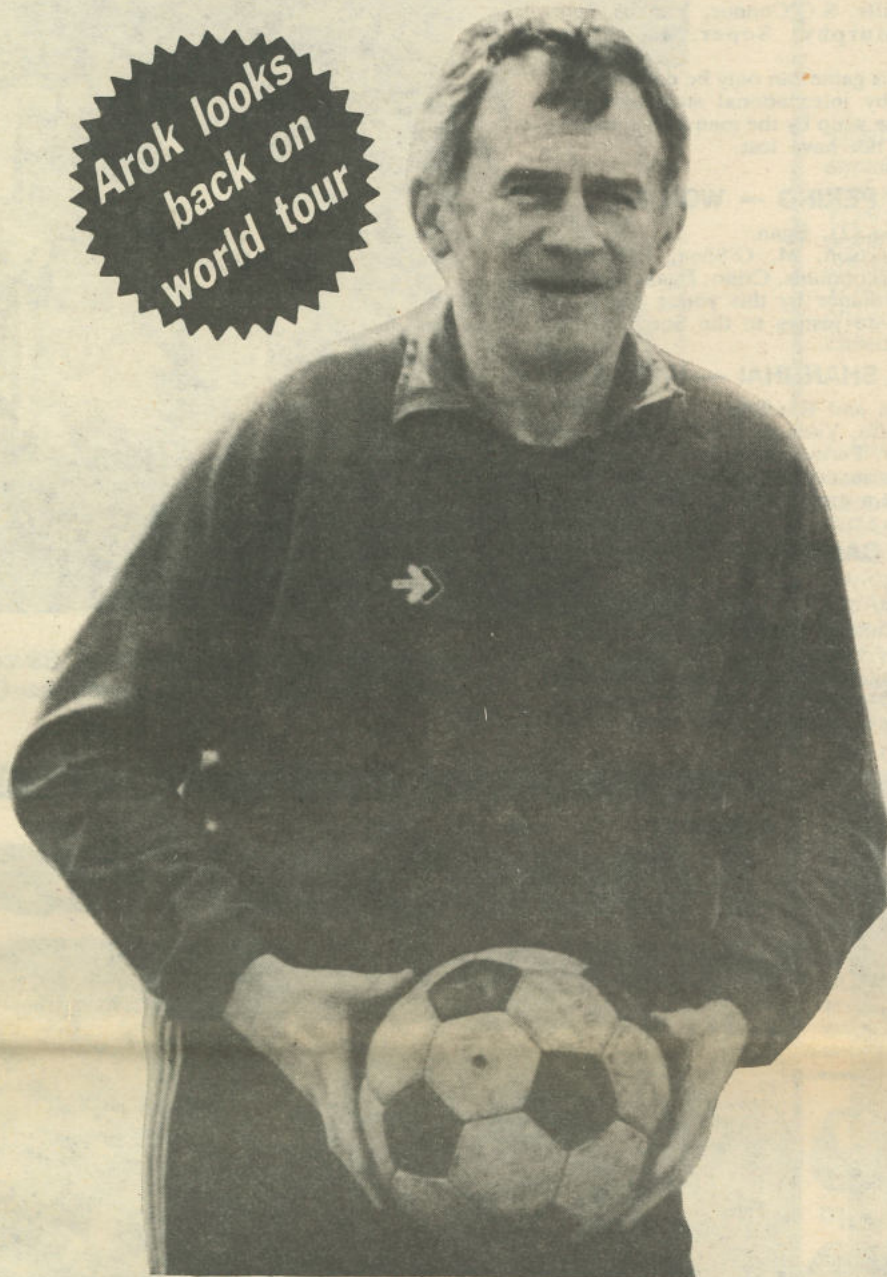
But Lowndes remains confident. And while he is not predicting the team will win any major honours this season, he says the players presently training have the heart to cause some upsets this year.



MISSION MEXICO

— ASW's four-page liftout

Arok looks
back on
world tour



TOUR SORTED OUT AUSSIES

BY TOM ANDERSON

THE Soccerroo tour of China and Europe will go down in the record book as being an unqualified success ... IF the knowledge gained and the lessons learned are implemented fully by national coach Frank Arok and the Australian Soccer Federation.

This sortie was designed as a fact-finding mission to discover how the squad and individual players and the team management could cope with the great pressure of meeting top opposition overseas and living, training and conducting themselves full-time in a top professional world.

It did, just that and some of the revelations both on and off the field were real eye-openers.

Coach Arok should now know the strengths and weaknesses of his present squad.

If the weaknesses are not rectified, then the tour will come under the banner of the biggest waste of time and money of all time, which indeed would be a real tragedy.

In hindsight, many of the cynics here in Aust-

ralia were quick to jump on the bandwagon to condemn and rubbish the tour after it had been completed.

This was par for the course and had to be expected from certain

quarters.

A little knowledge is indeed a dangerous thing and the criticism came from people without full knowledge of

CONTINUED PAGE 14

TOUR RESULTS:

IN CHINA:

China 3 Australia 2
Peking 2 Australia 3
Shanghai 0 Australia 2
Canton 2 Australia 1

IN EUROPE:

Manchester City 1 Australia 3
Nottingham Forest 0 Australia 0
Rangers 2 Australia 1
PSV Eindhoven 2 Australia 0
Aston Villa 2 Australia 0
Arsenal 3 Australia 2
Udinese 2 Australia 0
Tottenham 2 Australia 1

TOTAL:

12 games — won 3, drawn 1, lost 8.
Goals for 15, against 21.

AUSTRALIAN SCORERS:

Charlie Egan 4, Oscar Crino 3, John Kosmina 3,
Marshall Soper 2, David Ratcliffe 1, Tom McCulloch
1, Ian Gray 1.

'THE NUCLEUS IS THERE'

AUSTRALIAN coach Frank Arok took the 22-man Soccerroo squad on a mammoth five-week world tour in November-December. Here Arok discusses the current state of the national team with BRAD EARL.

Q: Looking back on the tour, what are your thoughts?

A: We can really start analysing the whole project. When I started working for the Australian Soccer Federation and the marketing company, the first task was only to produce decent results. I was asked not to lose those three games against England by a big margin. We achieved some extraordinary results, and suddenly it was seen that Australian soccer was not that bad anymore.

After being appointed national coach, I had a different task. The only real target for everyone in the code is to get to Mexico. We tried to give as many chances as we could to players to gain some kind of international experience. And thanks to the marketing company and Peter Sheean, we had very good exercises against internationally recognised club teams. When we realised that we can cope with those kind of games at home, we had to get as many internationals in Europe and other parts of the world.

In the World Cup qualifiers we've got two types of games. We've been put in a very strange group with Israel and Taiwan, because they wouldn't be accepted by anyone else. The winner of that group meets the second best team from Group 7 and that should be Spain or Scotland. We are facing entirely different type of opposition on away and home basis, so we have to master that skill.

We have achieved the very best of the draw for ourselves, as far as I am concerned, because we've

fortunate to be taken over there as decent opposition. It was first time in history that an Australian team paid the bills by getting good money for the games. To have a successful tour financially you have to play a certain number of games.

We never played any "rubbish" team. I don't want to even make any comparison between our tour and New Zealand's. They played fourth division teams. We refused to play against England 'B' because we thought we have done well against the England 'A' team. In my opinion the club sides are better than the English 'B' team, which is put together on the same day. So from that side I am very satisfied with the fact that we played against world class players, world class teams, experienced different styles and played on excellent surfaces. The only game we had to play on a so-called training pitch was because of the weather conditions, and that training pitch is better than any of our pitches as far as quality is concerned.

Q: Which Australian players stood out against these teams?

A: As usual I will not analyse players publicly. It should be said in the dressing room, and every player should be told about his performance privately. Pressmen are always excited about some performances, and it is their job to make their evaluations of the players.

The fact that some players are kept together all the time says the most from my side. If I trust someone and he is regularly in the team, why should I say that he is great? I say everything with selection. We've been very satisfied with some new blood and some youngsters. I am looking for reliability from players, but commitment is not enough any more. Everyone should be committed. We are talking about a life-time chance to get into the World Cup Finals. But what is his contribution? Your very best is not enough. It doesn't mean you've contributed to the needs of the team.

Q: You mentioned that younger players came through on the tour. Recently Les Scheinflug called for you to bring in more younger players, suggesting Jimmy Patikas, David Lowe and Rod Brown as three who should be introduced.

A: I never gave Les any advice. I would like to ask him why he never put any of those youngsters in the team when he had every chance in the world in Singapore. So I don't know what he is talking about.

Q: Another criticism has been a lack of speed in some parts of the team. Is that a worry?

A: We are aware of a lack of speed in the team, but some of the very speedy players never contributed properly. We've got some problems with speed in one-on-one situations. To have a good player and a fast one is definitely a big advantage, but to have only a fast player wouldn't be any good. I am in favour of using the ball, and if a fast player can do that job, that is excellent. But those kind of players would play somewhere else ... for Arsenal, Real Madrid, Juventus!

Q: South Melbourne had the best defence statistically in the NSL last season, yet at this stage you haven't included any of their defenders. Do Bobby Russell, John Yzendoorn or Steve Blair fit into your plans?

A: Blair was included in our plans but he declared himself unavailable. He should fight for his place in the next six or seven months. He lost too much by not being on that tour, but he is excellent in the air and probably in a battle, say against a Scottish team, he would be excellent.

Everyone in the team is capable of playing according to my wishes. We have been building that team for about two years. Those players have been reliable, they have been performing well, suddenly because another guy is performing well I can't disregard someone. In that case you are not stable. The trust factor between players and coaches is important, and they deserve your trust because they are doing a good job. Australia should have a team that is well-known to every kid.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

TOM ANDERSON, who accompanied



□ SOCCEROO midfielder Oscar Crino (right) with national team physio Charlie Jurisic on the Great Wall of China.

CHINA

V CHINA IN PEKING — LOST 3-2

Goals scored by Kosmina (2). Greedy; Savor, Ratcliffe, S.O'Connor, Yankos, Jennings; Watson, Murphy; Soper, Kosmina, P.O'Connor.

The refereeing in this game can only be described as totally unacceptable by international standards and given a fair crack of the whip by the man in the middle the Socceroos would not have lost.

V PEKING IN PEKING — WON 3-2

Goals scored by Crino (2), Egan. Franken; Gray, Robertson, M. O'Shea, J.O'Shea; McCulloch, Savor, Raskopoulos, Crino; Egan, Farina. An excellent performance by this young side and the scoreline did not do justice to the Socceroos.

V SHANGHAI IN SHANGHAI — WON 2-0

Goals scored by Egan and Ratcliffe. Pezzano; Gray, Ratcliffe, Yankos, Jennings; Watson, Raskopoulos, Murphy; Farina, Kosmina, Egan. Another good performance by the Socceroos who won comfortably with a great deal up their sleeves.

V CANTON IN CANTON — LOST 1-2

Goal scored by Crino. Greedy; M.O'Shea, S.O'Connor, Robertson, J.O'Shea; Savor, McCulloch, Crino; Soper, Kosmina, P.O'Connor.

A goal in the dying seconds by Canton downed Australia in a game they should never have lost and once again the refereeing left a great deal to be desired.



□ AUSTRALIAN players Wally Savor and Eddie Thomson pictured during the tour.

WORLD TOUR SUMMARY

EUROPE

V MANCHESTER CITY AT MAINE RD — WON 3-1

Goals scored by Gray, Kosmina and Egan. Greedy; Gray, Yankos, Ratcliffe, S.O'Connor, Jennings; Watson, Raskopoulos, Murphy; Soper, Kosmina.

A magnificent performance by the Socceroos on a night when everything came together and they outplayed their English opponents in every phase of the game.

V NOTTINGHAM FOREST AT CITY GROUND — DREW 0-0

Greedy; Gray, Yankos, Ratcliffe, S.O'Connor, Jennings; Watson, Murphy; Soper, Kosmina, Egan.

Yet another very fine demonstration by the Australians who looked very organised and played a very disciplined style of top class football.

V GLASGOW RANGERS AT IBROX STADIUM — LOST 1-2

Goal scored by Egan. Greedy; Gray, S.O'Connor, Robertson, Ratcliffe, Jennings; Watson, Murphy, Crino; Kosmina, Egan.

A magnificent game but one in which the Socceroos had no answer to the individual brilliance of Rangers' Scottish international striker Davie Cooper, who got both goals for his team and gave young Ian Gray the biggest nightmare of his short career.

V PSV EINDHOVEN IN EINDHOVEN — LOST 0-2

Pezzano; M.O'Shea, Yankos, Ratcliffe, J.O'Shea; Savor, Raskopoulos, McCulloch; Farina, Soper, P.O'Connor.

Two very controversial goals by PSV in the last five minutes caused the defeat of this gallant young Australian line-up, who more than matched the Dutchmen who fielded seven internationals.

V ASTON VILLA AT VILLA PARK — LOST 0-2

Greedy; Jennings, Yankos, S.O'Connor, Robertson; McCulloch, Watson, Murphy; Soper, Kosmina, Farina.

The Sunday morning that the wheels fell off the Australian barrow — a poor performance and without doubt the worst of the tour.

V ARSENAL AT HIGHBURY — LOST 2-3

Goals scored by Soper (2). Greedy; J.O'Shea, Yankos, Ratcliffe, S.O'Connor, Jennings; McCulloch, Murphy, Crino; Soper, Kosmina.

Yet another game that slipped away with a goal by the opposition in the dying seconds. But it was a fine performance by the Socceroos who looked every bit as good in every department as this Arsenal first team chasing the English title.

V UDINESE IN UDINE — LOST 0-2

Pezzano; Gray, Ratcliffe, M.O'Shea, Robertson, Jennings; Watson, Savor, Murphy; Farina, P.O'Connor.

Australia had no answer to the magic of Brazilian wizard Zico and Udinese never looked like losing this one.

V TOTTENHAM AT CHESHUNT — LOST 1-2

Goal scored by McCulloch. Franken; Ratcliffe, S.O'Connor, Yankos, Jennings; McCulloch, Watson, Murphy, Crino; Egan, Kosmina.

This was the "Clayton's" game of the tour — the game you have when you're not having a game!

The Scottis



□ AUSTRALIA'S Scottish contingent are pictured during their stay in Britain: From left, Charlie Egan, Kenny Murphy, ASW correspondent Tom Anderson, assistant national coach Eddie Thomson, Alec Robertson and Joe Watson.

National coach Frank Arok fielded all four Scots, now of course

the Socceroos, reviews the world tour



John Kosmina, Phil O'Connor, Steve O'Connor and assistant coach
na leg of the world tour.

h connection



naturalised Australians, in the match against leading Premier League club Glasgow Rangers.

For Watson, the tour was particularly significant, as the Socceroos also played at Nottingham Forest, where he began his career as an apprentice.

SOCCEROOS — HOW THEY PERFORMED

GOALKEEPERS

TERRY GREEDY — 7 — Reflex work excellent, but had problems on cross balls and at near post on too many occasions.
TONY PEZZANO — 6 — Brilliant on occasions and terrible on others and lacked the consistency factor.
TONY FRANKEN — 8 — Given little chance to show his wares but when he was called into the action played well.

DEFENDERS

DAVID RATCLIFFE — 10 — The most outstanding player in the squad and was absolutely magnificent on every outing.
GRAHAM JENNINGS — 9 — "Mr Consistency" who could always be relied upon to perform up to standard.
CHARLIE YANKOS — 6 — Got caught out with his lack of pace against top opposition.
STEVE O'CONNOR — 6 — Like Yankos lacked pace against top opposition.
ALEX ROBERTSON — 7 — Did reasonably well when called upon.
IAN GRAY — 6 — Did quite well against Chinese opposition but his lack of experience and knowledge of full-back play was exposed to the fullest in Europe.
MIKE O'SHEA — 6 — An honest player who gave his all but at times found the going tough.
WALLY SAVOR — 6 — Found the going tough in his first international appearances.
JOHN O'SHEA — 6 — Gave his lot at all times but found it difficult to settle at full-back.

MIDFIELDERS

TOMMY McCULLOCH — 9 — Got stronger as the tour progressed and a player with great ability and a wonderful attitude.
PETER RASKOPOULOS — 9 — Played to his true potential and it was a tragedy when he broke his leg against Eindhoven.
OSCAR CRINO — 8 — Did much to establish himself as a national squad player and if he loses a few kilos in weight will be a key man in the World Cup campaign.
JOE WATSON — 7 — Started well but a long hard season began to tell by the end of the tour.
KEN MURPHY — 7 — Ran himself into the ground early on and like Watson found the tough schedule very demanding.

STRIKERS

JOHN KOSMINA — 7 — Had a big workload and was a very tired player by the last game.
MARSHALL SOPER — 8 — Started the tour very nervously but was roaring like a lion by the end and can be well satisfied with his efforts.
CHARLIE EGAN — 7 — Headed the goalscoring list but at times found the tough tackling in Europe not to his liking.
FRANK FARINA — 6 — Found it very difficult to find the form he showed earlier in the year in the World Series.
PHIL O'CONNOR — 6 — Definitely not his happiest tour and lacked pace against top opposition.

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Arok interview

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

The understanding between the players will make or break the team. If I'm going to put one player in because one player is better in one game, two games, five games, what would be his contribution in the last 25 games for Australia? Why should I make the same mistakes as other people by changing every week because someone is playing well or badly, and play a bingo game? I might have a full house for one day, but I want a good team all the time.

Q: You didn't take a specialist right-back on the tour?

A: Because I haven't got a right-back or left-back in the team. Basically at the moment all teams are playing with one or two centre-forwards, and all the others are doing the work in the middle and coming from everywhere. So for containing that type of game and to be capable of doing your own stuff, you've got to have as much as possible more versatile players. Today the full-backs are probably the most versatile players, the real ones who can overlap, who can mix in midfield, who can create chances, who can even score goals. As national coach I am in a position where I can convert excellent midfielders into full-backs, whereas club teams can't do it. Take Davidson; he was a midfielder with his club, an attacking midfielder, and he's playing full-back over there. The other so-called full-back, Jennings, is in fact an attacker.

Q: You spoke about the system where the midfielders change around and come forward, the system France used in the European Championship.

A: Yes, France played with just one central striker, one half-and-half type of left winger, and five midfielders, with Platini as the deepest midfielder. Why was the French genius in behind everyone? Because his balls were really fantastic. He can give you a ball on a gold plate, and then everyone is running and suddenly your opponents can't get you under control. It is not less offensive. You are giving the other side a good chance to defend when you've got so-called stable spots, where you are the centre-forward, the centre-back will keep you under control, and so on.

Q: So you're trying to achieve that system of play with your team?

A: We started playing that kind of game against England, and everyone was criticising us. Suddenly when France is playing similarly, they said "great". But we were playing one-and-a-half years before that with two centre-backs and a sweeper, five midfielders and two up-front.

Q: What are your plans for the year?

A: We will have a couple of internationals in May or June this year, and about four or five in July-August, and after those games we should have all the names really clear. The future will depend on other things as well.

What kind of form will be performed by the so-called basic teams, like Sydney Olympic, Sydney City, South Melbourne, St George, the teams which form the base of our national team? When I analysed what happened last time in the World Cup it was so obvious that the failure was cemented not in the national team but in Marconi and Heidelberg. They had been the biggest suppliers of national players, but they'd been in dreadful form.

By the time of the qualifying matches in September-October, the competition will be behind us, all the excitement and disappointments of the grand finals and so on. There will be a very short time for the preparation, particularly for the first game in New Zealand, which will have a big influence on our final position on that table. You are suddenly in a situation where you have to produce something extraordinary in a short period of time. It is well-known in sports medicine that you can't reach your peak form more than twice a year, and that will be reached some time in the middle of the season.

When you are talking about your peak form after the season, you've got to be a witchdoctor to reach that. I'm not any kind of witchdoctor. I can do a good job with the players if I've got time. I am very worried because the last NSL game will be played on September 8, so we are going to have no more than about two weeks with the complete squad. My idea is to take the players somewhere and let them rest, playing completely different types of games.

We need a big boost somehow and support from everyone to create a situation where the players, once in a lifetime, will get that kind of motivation from everyone which will help that peak form to be reached artificially. Of course the big game will be enough to motivate people but not enough to reach that extraordinary high level of performance.

Q: The games against China are planned to be played during the World Cup qualifying series.

A: Yes, after the first game against New Zealand on September 21, it's quite a long period of time until the next game on October 8. We will play China three times, but only once with the so-called first team for the Ampol Cup, probably on September 29.

The other matches will be played by an Under 23 team using all the other players not involved in the game against New Zealand. So the potential, younger candidates will be used for those games, which should be the first selection for the Olympic Games and the future of the Australian team, which should start immediately regardless of whether we qualify for Mexico or not. The age limit to do a good job for the 1990 World Cup should be about 23 now.

ALAN VEST

Writes
for
ASW



ALAN VEST, one of Australia's leading coaches, will be writing for AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY this year.

Currently employed full-time as director of coaching for New South Wales, Vest has an impressive playing and coaching background.

He represented New Zealand in World Cup matches after emigrating from England, and scored the opening goal for the Kiwis in the 3-3 World Cup draw with Australia in Sydney in 1973.

A couple of years later he moved across the Tasman to become Western Australian state coach, and in 1978 he was appointed Newcastle KB United's coach in their inaugural season in the Philips League.

Vest was KB's coach for three-and-a-half seasons, and under his control the club attracted 15,000-plus crowds at Newcastle's International Sports Centre.

In 1982 Alan continued his travels, joining West Adelaide for a two-year stint, and last year he coached in Perth before being chosen as NSW's director of coaching.

In his first column for ASW, Vest gives his authoritative view on the Socceroos preparations for the World Cup matches:

CAREFUL PLANNING IS VITAL

THE next nine months will be one of the most important periods in Australian soccer for a long time.

The careful planning of the national team is vital to enable Australia to go into the World Cup eliminations well-prepared and with the best team available.

The tour in late 1984 should have paved the way for Frank Arok and Eddie Thomson to have the basis of their final World Cup squad.

Teams are now back in pre-season training and so there seems little point in having national players into camp at this stage, as all should now be into the swing of working towards match fitness.

Players need a break and after their hectic 1984 tour a rest before pre-season would have given as much benefit as to continue working. Light work on a recreational angle would have kept them in trim.

Tactics

Thought should be given to planning games during the months up to September-October so the players get the opportunity of working as a unit.

Three-day camps about once a month over the first few months would enable the national coach to get the squad together to work on the tactical side of



FRANK AROK supervises a national team training camp. These camps should be held regularly in preparation for the World Cup this year.

their play.

A longer camp should be held if possible prior to their July-August tournament.

By then the squad should be about complete, but with the flexibility to bring in the odd in-form player.

It's then really the countdown, and the planning of training and

matches is vital.

As in most countries, the problems of the national coach are immense with club commitments and the possibility of injuries.

Peak

The last month prior to the actual World Cup games is important so that the coach can

get his complete squad together, including for the first time players playing overseas. His job is then to bring them to their peak for those vital games.

On top of this, he's got the job of watching the opposition in their build-up games.

Those are a few of my thoughts on Australia's

build-up to the World Cup eliminations.

It's a hectic programme for the players and Frank and Eddie.

Let's all get behind them, give them all the support and cooperation they need. Because national team success means success for everyone in the game.

TOUR SORTED OUT AUSSIES

FROM PAGE 11

what actually happened and what took place during the arduous weeks on the road.

What must never be forgotten above all else is that it was imperative that coach Arok found out the weaknesses of his set-up now, rather than during the actual World Cup campaign when it would then be too late to make changes.

The opposition met by the Socceroos in Europe was undoubtedly the strongest ever encountered by an Australian soccer touring team.

Great world class stars such as Zico,

Davie Cooper, Charlie Nicholas, Kenny Sansom, Tony Woodcock, Viv Anderson, Paul Mariner, Willie Van der Kerkhof, Ernie Brandts, Tom Lokhoff, Hans Segers, Gordon Cowans, Ossie Ardiles and Massimo Mauro, to name a few, all lined up against our boys.

They were class personified and superstars in their own right.

This type of opposition was far superior to what the Socceroos will meet in the Oceania qualifying round of the World Cup — with all due respect to Israel and New Zealand.

For me the main weakness in the Socceroo set-up was the

lack of pace in the squad and this is a deficiency that coach Arok will have to overcome if World Cup success is to be gained.

The most pleasing feature of the tour was the performance of the young brigade who did themselves proud both on and off the field.

For me the two real highlights of the trip were the visits to Glasgow in Scotland and Udine in Italy.

The Rangers and Udinese clubs rolled out the red carpet for the Socceroos and extended hospitality and friendship that can only be described as second to none.

The real lowspot was

the performance against Aston Villa at Villa Park — this really scraped the bottom of the barrel!

But all in all, this sor-

tie should go down as one of the most important ever undertaken by the Socceroos if the knowledge gained is now implemented to the fullest.



ZICO: a world class star.

PATIKAS

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

ONE of the biggest shocks in the off season was the decision by Jimmy Patikas to leave Australian Conference grand final winners Sydney Olympic and join Sydney Croatia.

The young midfielder was transferred to Croatia late last week for a \$25,000 transfer fee.

He holds no grudges against Olympic officials or supporters and says his problems with the club had been mounting for some time.

"I love playing in front of the Greek supporters," he confessed.

"Many people feel I left Olympic because they didn't offer me enough money to sign on. That's wrong.

"When I spoke with president Jim Petinellis, I didn't ask for more money this year.

"The next day I was quoted in a Greek newspaper as saying I was trying to send Sydney Olympic broke."

'Improve my game'

Patikas feels a change of clubs will help improve his game and regain his position in the Australian team.

"Leaving Olympic should help my game," said the former Youth international.

"When I think about it, I feel that I didn't really adapt to the Olympic style.

"It was disappointing missing the world tour but I have myself to blame.

"I was injured during the semi-final playoffs but kept playing for Olympic."

In recent months the Australian midfield has been criticised for lack of pace. On his day, Patikas is the most explosive midfielder in Australia.

That's one of the reasons why Sydney Croatia were so keen to sign him.

"Our supporters have been very impressed with his style of play in the Pindari Challenge tournament and his signing will be of great value to the team," said Croatia president Tony Basic.

Even at 22, Patikas is one of Australia's experienced National League players.

In 1979 he joined Sydney City and in four years won three championship winning medals.

Patikas also has the distinction of representing the Australian

Youth team in two campaigns. In 1981 he showed tremendous ability as a 17-year-old and two years later he

was one of Australia's most experienced players in Mexico.

Now he has the perfect opportunity to re-

gain his place in the Socceroo line-up and play an important part in Australia's World Cup plans.

CROATIA MOVE WILL LIFT HIS GAME



'I wasn't trying to bankrupt Olympic'



□ LJUBO GOJKOVIC: Warringah.



□ RAUL BLANCO: Canterbury.



□ ILIYA TAKACS is carried off the field by jubilant Rockdale Ilinden supporters after the side's Grand Final victory in the NSW State League last year.

BIG-NAME COACHES IN STATE LEAGUE BATTLE OF WITS

BY FRANK COLETTA

THE State League this season is shaping up as a battle of the experienced coaches versus the relative newcomers.

Men such as Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic's Raul Blanco, Warringah Narrabeen's Ljubo Gojkovic, Rockdale Ilinden's Iliya Takacs, Ku-ring-gai's Dennis Ford and Parramatta Melita's Mick Jones have all coached National League teams at some stage of their career.

Richard Alagich (Manly) and Vic Dalglish (Avala) are noted for their work with young players as well as having considerable senior coaching experience.

These coaches will surely test the exuberant efforts of not so well-known men such as Rob Harbour (Bankstown National), Rafael Rodriguez (Uruguay Auburn), Chico Vojnovic (Polonia), John Fleming (Fairy Meadow) and John Lavin (Sutherland).

The full list of State League coaches is:

Avala: Vic Dalglish

This man's experience in State League coaching will hold his side in good stead this term.

Dalglish takes on Avala after having coached Ku-ring-gai last season. He has also coached Melita Eagles and Auburn in recent years.

The Scot has another coaching task this year — he is in charge of the Australian squad for the inaugural World Under 16 Championship in China.

Bankstown: Rob Harbour

Harbour is relatively unknown, stepping up to State League after coaching the Australian Combined Universities side.

Canterbury: Raul Blanco

Blanco needs no introduction. He has coached in the National League with St George, Marconi and Parramatta Melita.

He was Eddie Thomson's assistant when Sydney City won the NSL title in 1982, and from 1981-83 he assisted national coach to Les Scheinflug with both the senior and Youth squads.

Fairy Meadow: John Fleming

The side from Corrimal who won last season's Second Division title have pulled off a useful signing in Fleming.

He has just completed three seasons playing for Wollongong Wolves and has decided to turn his hand to coaching.

Ku-ring-gai: Dennis Ford

Ford was Queensland director of coaching and coach of Brisbane City in the National League in the late 1970s.

Last year he coached Blacktown City's NSL Youth League side.

Manly Warringah: Richard Alagich

Under Alagich the Seaside's finished in third place behind the two big guns of 1984, Inter-Monaro and Rockdale.

Prior to taking up the Manly position, Alagich was on the coaching staff at St George under national coach Frank Arok. In 1982 he guided the Saints' youth team to the NSL Youth League championship.

Alagich also runs the successful Pacific Soccer Camps for junior players.

P'matta Melita: Mick Jones

After being relegated from the National League, Melita look set to dominate the State League this time around with the mindful coach Mick Jones in charge of a star-studded line-up.

Jones has had a deal of success in coaching, having been on the Sydney scene since the early 1970s.

He coached Blacktown City in their inaugural NSL season in 1980, then spent two years at Manly. Last year he took control of Sydney Croatia's NSL team early in the season, but resigned after three games.

Polonia: Chico Vojnovic

Another relatively unknown coach. Although he has limited State League experience, he is a knowledgeable and well-respected coach.

Rockdale Ilinden: Iliya Takacs

Another highly experienced coach whose guile and expertise were displayed last season when he masterminded Rockdale's Grand Final victory in the State League.

Remembered for his

skill as a player, Takacs always encourages his side to play an adventurous attacking game.

He had a brief stint as a National League coach with St George in the late 1970s.

Sutherland Shire: John Lavin

Last season Lavin took Sutherland to a very creditable fourth in the State League in his first year with the club.

He still has with him the nucleus of the squad that finished the season losing to Manly in the preliminary semi-final, so he will be looking for further improvement this season.

Uruguay Auburn: Rafael Rodriguez

Rodriguez is best known for his exploits with Welcome Sports, initially bringing them into the NSW Federation.

He also coached Chile to victory in the recent ethnic championship.

Warringah N'been: Ljubo Gojkovic

A very experienced coach, Gojkovic was Sydney Olympic's youth team coach when he took over the NSL duties from Doug Collins in 1982.

A number of players



□ RICHARD ALAGICH: Manly.



□ MICK JONES: Melita.



□ VIC DALGLISH: Avala.

he brought through at Olympic linked up with him again when he took on Auburn Uruguay last season.

WINNER ASSURED OF NSL PLACE

BY MIKE JOHNSON

ANOTHER soccer season begins, bright with green and grassy fields and the hopes of players, coaches, clubs and spectators.

We have another changed playing structure for the National League, but this one seems the best for several seasons.

Whosoever wins State League will automatically be promoted into the National League.

So those people who run the affairs of Melita Eagles and are looking to their team to top State League, can be assured that Melita would automatically re-join the elite.

Of course there are others in the State League with similar ambitions to Melita.

One of these is Sutherland.

Looking out of my office at Miranda Fair I can look down on Sutherland's tidy ground in the centre of Miranda, Sutherland Shire's main suburb.

Sutherland's groundsman has the playing surface better than at any time in recent years.

It is bright green, lush and flat — a joy to see.

Of course it will receive enormous wear and tear from numerous teams who will use it from out of the vast junior association which exists in Sutherland Shire.

Come mid-season, it will not be recognisable from the lovely green carpet which exists today.

And that is a pity. Senior grounds are over-run far too readily with too many players and teams using them for practice and matches.

The playing surfaces become completely unsuitable for top soccer and State League soccer is that.

The players do not have a chance, come mid-

season, to perform to the level of which they are capable, or to provide the entertainment that any paying customer should expect.

This matter needs urgent consideration by the NSW Soccer Federation.

Meanwhile, Sutherland's tidy, manicured venue will provide excellent amenities for Melita, Manly and Rockdale, who will contest the top placings with Sutherland for the right to join the National League.

Canterbury, with Raul Blanco coaching and Rale Rasic in the wings as coaching director, may also have a say in this promotion battle.

Fairy Meadow, which won its own promotion battle last year to join State League, will be an interesting newcomer from the Wollongong region.

It is the only Wollongong team to have won the right to play in top soccer in NSW for several decades.

Wollongong Wolves was a new team formed to join the National League.

If coaching experience counts for anything, Blanco, Mick Jones at Melita and Iliya Takacs at Rockdale will have the edge on the rest of the field, though Sutherland's John Lavin and Manly's Richard Alagich, both have had lengthy involvement in coaching soccer.

For myself, I hope to have charge of my son's Under 11 team with Miranda Magpies, just a spit away from where Sutherland's big boys play on Seymour Shaw.

NSW SOUTH WALES SOCCER FEDERATION & AMATEUR SOCCER FEDERATION COACHING COURSES

BASIC (LEVEL I):

Course — February 23, 24

Course 2 — March 2, 3

Course 3 — March 9, 10

FEE \$10

PRELIMINARY (LEVEL II):

February 23, 24, March 2, 3, 9, 10.

FEE \$45

All courses are held at Soccer Headquarters, Parklea.

Inquiries & application forms to:

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Parklea, 2148.

Ph 629 1800.

COALSTARS PLAN TITLE ASSAULT

BY GREG RUSSELL

IPSWICH club Coalstars could be the team to watch in the Queensland Premier League competition this season.

Despite finishing only seventh in a 10-team league in 1984, Coalstars have been leading the way in recruiting new players for this season.

The club, back in the state's top league for the first time in nearly a decade last year, have already signed, or are trialling, some of the best credentialled players in Brisbane.

Coalstars, now under Brian Style — the colts team coach at arch-rivals Ipswich United last year — already have scooped champions Mount Gravatt and Grange Thistle in snaring former Easts, Ipswich United and Brisbane City striker Mark Brusasco.

And the list of trialists at Bundamba includes Olympic players Mark McNaughton and Andy Ogden and Sunnyside's Mark Atmore. McNaughton and Atmore were NSL players at Lions during Joe Gilroy's reign.

Coalstars also have talked to Ipswich United's hard-working midfielder Bruce Penman, a former Bundamba player, and his club-mate Murray Kitching.

The club's only loss from last year's squad is goalkeeper Tony Spruce, who has moved to Rockhampton. But former club keeper Brent Diflo is back after a season off.

And the Coalstars squad already contains players of the calibre of Kevin Caldwell, the former Brisbane City NSL stalwart, and Peter Tyson and Archie Fraser — two of the most creative midfielders in Brisbane soccer.

And brilliant English winger Dave Wheeler has returned after a holiday in the United Kingdom. Wheeler was signed "off the street" last season and proved to be a sensation.

He was eagerly sought by the Queensland NSL clubs but Coalstars had been alert enough to sign him early for the 1985 season.

By comparison, other Premier League clubs have been either slow or cautious in recruiting new players.

The early picture at the other nine clubs is:

ACACIA RIDGE: New coach Brian Addison is looking to last season's championship-winning reserve grade side for new first team players. New faces include Valley Trident striker Phil Cruse and Mount Gravatt reserve player Bill Wallace. Losses include goalkeeper Brett Beves (trialling at Brisbane City) while Steve Gallagher, Norm Bell and



□ BILLY WILLIAMSON: may join Easts.

Stu Holmes have trialled with Lions and Rochdale.

EASTS: New coach John Sime is keen to sign former Brisbane City and Lions NSL player Billy Williamson from Olympic after losing Brusasco to Coalstars. Leon Wilson has asked for a transfer and a number of young players including strikers Peter Tsoumaris and George Takis are being tempted by Olympic.

GRANGE THISTLE: Coach Jim Bayliss was chasing Brusasco but could have an equally exciting striker in Solomon Islander Billy Aluta. All other 1984 squad members have returned. Ken Swan, who played NSL with City last year, has had permission to train again with the club, but there is no talk of a loan again and he is listed at \$12,500 (NSL) and \$5,000.

IPSWICH UNITED: The squad has been boosted by the return of experienced goalkeeper John Bennett, who was overseas late last year, and the signing of Australian Under 16 squad member Damien Butler. Midfielder Gerry Lindsay is trialling at City and almost certain not to play at Ipswich this year, while Jeff Dann

has returned to retirement and Nev O'Sullivan did not front at early training sessions. Bruce Penman's future at Ebbw Vale was under negotiation.

LIONS: New coach Paul Laslo will have to wait until the NSL squad is finalised, but the club has an abundance of new young talent trialling at Richlands along with most of last year's squad. Olympic striker Tom McGregor, a former Lions NSL player, is one hopeful.

MT GRAVATT: Losses appear to include Gary Bohan, whose contract was not renewed despite finishing leading joint scorer last year, the retired Chris Corcoran and Cameron Bell, who is going overseas. David Costa and Stuart Woodruffe are being sought by City. Coach Eric Thompson is on the lookout for an experienced striker and midfielder and Olympic and former Lions NSL player Graham Wilson has been linked with the Dittmer Park club.

NORTH STAR: Coach Iain Fagan has all his talented youngsters back, including state Youth players Jarrod Austin and Lindsay Dines, and has boosted the squad by snaring

goalkeeper Bobby Yuk-san. Easts' Noel Lord and Redcliffe's John Wood are trialling. Former NSL Player of the Year Jim Hermiton is to play again. Paul Fagan is back from a short trial at City.



□ MARK BRUSASCO: new signing for Coalstars.

OLYMPIC: The 1984 side is shattered by departures. Apart from those mentioned above, Mick Cernaka and Craig Low are at City, Craig Schneider has had a work transfer and Graham Wilson's future is undecided. New faces could include Harry Tsoumaris from Easts and Mickey Rooney, the former Mount Gravatt reserve team coach. Olympic will be coached this year

by Con Tharenou, who guided the side to grand final success in 1983.

TARINGA: The club missed on Williamson but is looking for an experienced player to compliment the youngsters coach Iain Kesson hopes to develop over the next three years. Martin Green and Frank Byrne are at Lions and goalkeeper Tony Scanlan has not indicated his 1985 intentions.



□ BRETT BEVES

Brisbane bid for Socceroo match

BY GREG RUSSELL

DESPITE disaster attendances at World Soccer Series matches at Lang Park (Queensland's premier rugby league ground) last season, the Queensland Soccer Federation wants an international match played in Brisbane this season.

The QSF wants to host either a World Cup qualifying match late in the year or one of the Ampol Cup games against China in September.

"Queensland deserves to have the Australian team up here," QSF president and Australian Soccer Federation senior vice-president Ian Brusasco said.

But unlike the World Series matches, where the QSF had little control over the programming, organisation or promotion of the matches, the Queensland Federation wants to stage any internationals this season at soccer headquarters Perry Park.

Only 1,000 people attended the Australia 'B' V Glasgow Rangers match in Brisbane last year and even less watched the match against Greek side Iraklis. Less than 5,000 watched the Australia 'A' team play Nottingham Forest.

The poor attendances prompted series organiser Peter Sheehan to say he would have to "think long and hard" before bringing another international match to Brisbane.

But Brusasco intends to lobby the ASF for an international and seems set to concentrate his efforts on the proposed September 26 clash with China. The mid-week date suits the Federation because it would not interfere with the Premier League finals programme, to be held at the same time.

An international at Perry Park, which would be likely to attract more regular soccer followers than a game at the vast Lang Park, would help cap what promises to be an exciting representative season for Queensland.

Premier League players will be used to stage a Brisbane against Ipswich clash on March 31. Contests between the two cities — for the Kruger Cup — were annual and well-supported events during the 1960s and early 70s.

Queensland is scheduled to play its annual interstate clash against New South Wales at Perry Park on Anzac Day (April 25) while a state team, comprising National and Premier League players, will tour Fiji in May.

TILSED HAS DUAL ROLE

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

RON TILSED, recently appointed Australian team goalkeepers' trainer by national coach Frank Arok, has just returned from England to sign up as reserve to Terry Greedy at St George.

Tilsed attended his brother David's wedding in London, and whilst there, he went to see Southampton play in the bitterly cold conditions.

His heart warmed up, however, when he saw his old mate, England's international goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

Tilsed, originally from England, played for Bournemouth, Plymouth and Arsenal.

He represented England in Russia in an Under 19 world tournament before a crowd of 90,000 and stopped a penalty which gave England the championship.

The giant goalkeeper has been signed by St George as keeper-trainer for 1985.

When he lived in England, "Big Tilley" shared a flat with Shilton.

"It was great to see big Pete again," said Ron.

"That guy is getting better, and we had a long talk about Australia.

"I told him of my appointment as Australia's goalkeeping trainer, and warned him to watch out for us in Mexico when we play England!"

Tilsed first came to Australia in 1977 when Canberra City's then manager-coach Johnny Warren offered him a contract.

He returned to the National League scene last season with Wollongong City.

"For too long Australian clubs have neglected specialised goalkeeping coaching. It is such a vital area," Tilsed said.

"I spoke with Shilton about the possibility of setting up a specialised course for young goalkeepers in Australia for the future.

"There is good young material here but unless someone finds the young players they will go to waste," he concluded.



□ RON TILSED: appointment.



□ PETER SHILTON: long talk.



Readers Forum

CASH WILL GO TO JUNIORS

I WOULD like to express my most sincere thanks and appreciation to you and to your staff.

Especially to Mr Gil-mour for giving me an opportunity to contribute to your newspaper, and most importantly seeing fit to award me with first prize of the Serderon best correspondent award.

I feel very humble and I can assure you the money which the Riverina Branch of the New South Wales Amateur Soccer Federation has received will be well used to promote juniors in the area.

FRANK FINLAY,
Public relations officer,
Riverina Branch.

KEEP UP GOOD WORK!

I AM a junior reader and I am very impressed with your magazine.

I bought AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY continuously throughout the 1984 season and I enjoy reading the Junior Scene as I play junior soccer. I especially appreciated the larger edition of junior soccer in your final issue.

I hope you keep the good work up next season and I again will buy your magazine.

TONY ALGAR,
Hornsby Hts, NSW.

□ ASW welcomes readers' letters. Always include your name and address, although pen names will be used if requested.

HELP US TO HELP YOU!

Help us to provide a better service for you — just fill in our readers' questionnaire.

- How many people read your copy of ASW?
1 ... 2 ... 3 ... 4 ... over 5 ...
- How often do you attend a National League match?
1 per month ... 2 ... 3 ... 4 ... never ...
- How often do you attend a State League match?
1 per month ... 2 ... 3 ... 4 ... never ...
- Do you attend junior Soccer?
Yes ... No ...
- Which senior club do you support?
.....
- Which junior club or association are you involved with?
.....
- Would you like to see more of the following in ASW?
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• international content
• UK content
• coaching information
• junior soccer
• indoor soccer
• women's soccer
• other

8. Other newspapers/magazines you regularly read for soccer information:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 |

9. What do you like best about ASW?
.....
.....

10. Is there anything you don't like about ASW?
.....
.....

11. Do you have any suggestions to make ASW a more interesting and valuable publication?
.....
.....

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□ RAY BAARTZ climbs high during his playing days with Hakoah.

RAY BAARTZ is regarded as one of Australia's greatest-ever strikers, even though he was forced to retire at the age of 27.

That was in 1974 following an incident in the Socceroos' clash with Uruguay at the Sydney Cricket Ground in April, 1974.

A Uruguayan player was accused of using a karate chop against Baartz, who had to be rushed to hospital after the match.

RAY BAARTZ

The injury forced him to retire from playing, but he still travelled to West Germany with the Australian squad for the World Cup Finals.

Baartz owns a successful sports store in his home town of Newcastle.

These days his only involvement in soccer is as coach of his 10-year-old son's team.

When the now-defunct Newcastle KB

United entered the Philips League in 1978, Baartz was heavily involved in administrative duties.

He also successfully took over as coach for the latter half of the 1981 season following the departure of Alan Vest.

Baartz believes Newcastle will not achieve title success while they keep losing talented youngsters.

"The club should



have tried harder to hold on to young local products like Peter Trdinnick and David Lowe," he said.

— BRAD EARN



JUNIOR SCENE

Compiled
by Keith
Gilmour



WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

- THIS year, AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY's Junior pages will continue on with a flood of news-packed features.
- Junior, school, church and organisation clubs can be sure that every endeavour will be taken to use your features.
- Team action and player photographs and stories can be sent NOW to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway, NSW 2007, from right around the nation.
- If you have your team photograph from 1984, send it to us and we will return it after use.

Holmes re-elected by sweeping margin

IAN HOLMES retained his position as president of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation at the annual general meeting.

He received an overwhelming vote of confidence when he raced away to victory by a 34-12 margin.

Opponent Rod Woods is secretary of the National Junior Council as well as the Ku-ring-gai and District Soccer Association.

Holmes has been given the green light based on his past record and that of his team, but 1985 will be a testing time as the juniors and senior amateurs attempt to forge further ahead in both city and country NSW.

Soccer unfortunately has no commercial television backing to take major club games to both city and country audiences.

Problems

That indeed places the game at a tremendous disadvantage in getting the public at large acquainted with the code's leading players.

This occurs even allowing for the sterling efforts of Network 0/28, which telecasts in Sydney and Canberra.

In spite of these problems, the growth of soccer at grassroots level has been absolutely remarkable over the years.

Opposing codes and other sports often have resources that soccer must battle to secure.

But therein lies the challenge to the 1985 Amateurs executive.

Indeed a burst of positive thinking will be required on the Sydney Branch scene to complement the NSW activity.

With proper planning and execution, soccer can maintain its pre-eminent position amongst the kiddies in vast sectors of the state.

Retained

At the annual meeting, secretary Frank Wilson narrowly retained his position after drawing in the ballot in the first place with Canterbury Association's quiet worker Jim Wakeling.

In an upset, hard-driving Bobby Maundrell (Riverina) gained the senior vice-presidency.

BUT TESTING TIME AHEAD

Other vice-presidents, who are nominated from the individual branches, were announced.

They are Harrie Denning (Sutherland Assn and Sydney Branch), John Dunworth (Grange Assn and Western NSW Branch), Gary Hancock (South-West Slopes Assn and Riverina Branch) and John Gaudie (Shoalhaven Assn and Southern NSW Branch).

Barry Letherbarrow from Southern Districts was appointed assistant secretary (administration).

Long-serving George Churchwood is once again the treasurer and Frank Broughton the registrar.

Bill Cullinan was re-elected as competition secretary, whilst John Hedison will handle publicity and Terry Coates tours and promotions.



IAN HOLMES: re-elected by big margin

Last season was the settling-in period for the NSW Amateurs' franchising scheme for equipment suppliers.

With careful handling the scheme this year is set to bring about outstanding gains for promotion of the code.

SOCCEROO U16S SET FOR CHINA

AUSTRALIAN Under 16 Socceroos will be the nation's best ever, according to hardworking coach Vic Dalglish.

Working with the squad under the summer sun at Endeavour Hostel at Coogee, Dalglish has pared the original 35 trialists back to 25.

The boys had three weeks under excellent conditions. Food was of wide variety with an excellent choice of dishes and accommodation of high standard.

Dalglish said: "There has been a high standard of fitness and skill."

"It now rests on the players being under the right people until they come into camp again in the second week of the May school holidays at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra."

Finally the 25 will be reduced to 18 players, who will then compete in the first-ever World U16 Championship held in China in late July and early August.

Already chosen to participate are Bolivia, Hungary, the United States, host China and Oceania Confederation champions Australia.

The distribution under states of the players in contention for final selection is: Victoria and Northern NSW 7 each, Western Australia 4, NSW 3, Queensland and South Australia 2 each.

Dalglish was sad to part with those who have already been dropped. "It is only my opinion and it does not mean that they won't succeed," he said.

National coach Frank Arok took the players for one session.

It seems that Craig Foster (Lismore) and David Aranyi (Newcastle) could be heading towards the St George Soccer Stadium.

Aranyi's father was a former player with the St George club.

Northern NSW player Gavin Parry, who has had a setback with glandular fever, will be given the chance to re-establish himself.

He was one of the successes when Australia won

the Oceania title in Auckland.

Dalglish has been setting up contacts to learn what he can of other nations' teams.

He paid a big tribute to the group of coaches who have been helping him.

They have done so far three weeks on the basis of very modest expense payment only.

They were Brian Williamson and John Haynes (NSW), Alan Alexander (Victoria) and Bob Goodwin (ACT), with Stan Dye (Qld) and Rod Woods (NSW) as managers.

The players to gather again for a week's camp in May are:

VIC: George Jolueski, Mark Talajich, Paul Tromboli, Robert Runje, Stan Thodis, Colin Cooper, Alex Eacott.

NORTH NSW: Tony Razmonski, Craig Foster, John Govan, Justin Davis, Gavin Parry, Michael Graham, David Aranyi.

WA: Gareth Naven, Craig Naven, Scott Racey, Dean Nicolaou.

NSW: David Scott, David Barrett, George Bouhoutsos.

QLD: Damien Butler, Neil Cotsgrave.

SA: Brett Thomson, Stephen Niscol.



DAVID BARRETT



DAVID SCOTT

MINI AMPOL CUP STARTS

THE swimming pool at Parklea will be a popular spot to coincide with the opening of the 1985 Mini Ampol Cup for Under 13 players.

A total of 26 leading clubs and associations will compete in three groupings.

The draw has been arranged to allow for the final on Sunday, February 14.

That has meant staging a flurry of games around the end of the school holiday period.

Following Sunday's first round (see results), the juniors played yesterday (Monday) and will play again on Wednesday or Thursday.

The draw for rounds 2-5 are:

ROUND 2 — JANUARY 28 (YESTERDAY):

GROUND 2:
3.00pm Bankstown v Sydney City
4.10pm Apia v Central Coast
5.20pm Gladesville v Avala
6.30pm Croatia v Manly
GROUND 3:
3.00pm Marconi v Nepean
4.10pm Sutherland v Nth Bankstown
5.20pm Canterbury v Melita
6.30pm Baulkham Hills v Granville
GROUND 4:
3.00pm Sydney Olympic v Ku-ring-gal
4.10pm St George
5.20pm Rockdale v Illawarra
6.30pm Blacktown City v Macarthur

ROUND 3 — JANUARY 30 (WEDNESDAY):

GROUND 2:
5.20pm Sydney Olympic
6.30pm St George v Illawarra
GROUND 3:
5.20pm Apia v Avala
6.30pm Bankstown v Central Coast
GROUND 4:
5.20pm Marconi v Nth Bankstown
6.30pm Canterbury v Granville

ROUND 3 — JANUARY 31 (THURSDAY):

GROUND 2:
5.20pm Rockdale v Blacktown City
6.30pm Ku-ring-gal v Macarthur
GROUND 3:
5.20pm Croatia v Sthn Districts
6.30pm Gladesville v Manly
GROUND 4:
5.20pm Baulkham Hills v Blacktown Assn
6.30pm Sutherland v Melita

ROUND 4 — FEBRUARY 3 (SUNDAY):

GROUND 2:
10.00am Nth Bankstown v Nepean
11.10pm Canterbury v Blacktown Assn
12.20pm Sutherland v Granville
1.30pm Marconi v Melita
GROUND 3:
10.00am Ku-ring-gal
11.10am Rockdale v Macarthur
12.20pm Sydney Olympic v Illawarra
1.30pm St George v Blacktown City
GROUND 4:
10.00am Central Coast v Sydney City
11.10am Gladesville v Sthn Districts
12.20pm Bankstown v Avala
1.30pm Apia v Manly

ROUND 5 — FEBRUARY 3 (SUNDAY):

GROUND 2:
3.00pm Gladesville v Croatia
4.10pm Avala v Sydney City
5.20pm Apia v Sthn Districts
6.30pm Bankstown v Manly
GROUND 3:
3.00pm Canterbury v Baulkham Hills
4.10pm Sutherland v Blacktown Assn
5.20pm Melita v Nepean
6.30pm Marconi v Granville
GROUND 4:
3.00pm Macarthur
4.10pm Illawarra v Ku-ring-gal
5.20pm Sydney Olympic v Blacktown City
6.30pm St George v Rockdale

ROUND 1 RESULTS:

GROUP A: Sydney City v Apia 2-1, Central Coast v Gladesville 2-0, Croatia v Avala 2-0, Southern Dists v Manly 6-0, Bankstown bye.
GROUP B: Sutherland v Nepean 2-1, North Bankstown v Canterbury 7-1, Baulkham Hills v Melita 1-1, Blacktown Assn v Granville 4-0, Marconi bye.
GROUP C: Sydney Olympic v Macarthur 5-0, St George v Ku-ring-gal 2-0, Rockdale won on forfeit, Blacktown City v Illawarra 2-1.

SUTHERLAND'S STAMINA

A WEEK'S training camp at Johnny Warren's Gold Creek Station in Canberra stood Sutherland in good stead when they met Nepean in the opening U13 Mini Ampol Cup round on Sunday.

Sutherland's fitness held well for a 2-1 win over Nepean in a game that was slowed down by the stifling heat.

Despite the loss of key players from last season the Sutherland boys were determined not to drop points and so built a sound foundation for their 1985 season.

Although some errors crept into their play, they worked for each other and had the lion's share of the ball.

Goalkeeper Phillip Hutt was a top performer. Greg Hebbins was creative in midfield and Greg Trevillian looked the part at the front.

Blacktown City made an excellent start to defeat Illawarra 2-1 after leading 1-0 at half-time.

But the easiest task fell to Rockdale, who won on a forfeit as Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic withdrew from the competition.

With further rounds on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday this week as well as next Sunday, ASW will feature all these results and stories in our next issue.



□ A GIFT to assist raise funds for the NSW Country representative teams. Stephen Lumsden, Electronic Sales and Rentals' Albury manager, presents a colour television set to Country rep sides' public relations officer, Frank Finlay.

Support for NSW Country squads

A PHYSICAL handicap to one foot prevented Stephen Lumsden from fulfilling his childhood dream of playing soccer.

But New Zealand-born Mr Lumsden, now Electronic Sales and Rentals' manager in Albury, was ready to join in the soccer juniors' cause.

He agreed for his branch to become one of the main sponsors for the NSW Amateur Federation's Country representative teams in 1985.

As well as sponsoring a local U15 team out of his own pocket, his company donated a 34cm colour TV set and an AM-FM radio cassette player to help ease the burden of travel costs to the squads.

Mr Lumsden said: "I

feel by assisting talented junior soccer players I have in my own way expressed my interest in the coming future Young Socceroos."

Despite his business ties he will be personal-

ly keeping in close touch with the progress of the Country starlets.

In fact last weekend he travelled up to Sydney to see them in selection trials.

'BUSH KIDS' OFF TO QUEENSLAND

MATCHES against Queensland will provide a new dimension for the NSW Country representative juniors in the coming season.

After a sound but low-key start for the Country teams in 1984 for the U13 to U15 grades, Country will move into the important U16 ranks as well this year.

NSW Country and Queensland will play for the Johnny Warren Perpetual Trophy, whereas last year the matches were restricted to NSW, Northern NSW and the ACT.

Any slackness that was evident in the first year's operation is being eliminated.

In fact the Country triallists have already been to Parklea to work out for selection over the Australia Day weekend.

The U16s open against tough opposition — the NSL Northern Division, ASF squad and the State League U16s.

The U13s will receive special attention at Parklea over Easter, while the other grades will turn out against Sydney junior teams.

During the May school holidays, the four squads will assemble at Parklea.

Then they set off for an intensive series of

matches against Macquarie Association (Newcastle), Northern NSW Country at Coffs Harbour and then on to Queensland.

Country's round-off for the 1985 season will take place in Canberra in July, when the boys match their skills against the ACT.

Last year Country whitewashed the ACT, so the boys from the National Capital will have a deal to prove.

NSW Amateur Federation senior vice-president Bob Maundrell, a driving force in the game who hails from Griffith in the MIA, tips that the Country squads will consolidate their progress this year.

For years he planned for NSW Country youngsters to be given more of the chances to progress that have been taken for granted by the city boys.

In 1983, as Riverina Branch president, he used all his persuasive powers to convince the higher echelons that the boys from the bush had many hidden talents that would emerge.

— FRANK FINLAY



THIS year Newcastle Austral Junior Soccer Club celebrates its 21st birthday.

As an indication of their pride in their club they have provided photographs of each of the 10 junior teams.

We will be running these with pleasure over coming weeks.

Congratulations to their executive, president Harry Cowen, secretary David Petherbridge and treasurer Mrs Colleen Hollis and the committee.

The club plays its home matches on two full-sized fields at Cook Park, McArthur St, Shortland.

NEWCASTLE AUSTRAL CELEBRATE 21ST



□ NEWCASTLE AUSTRAL UNDER 6 1984:
BACK ROW: G. Grainger (coach), J. Bridges, S. Thomas, R. Gibson, A. Roohan, D. Roohan, M. Eldridge, B. Garrett (manager).
FRONT ROW: A. Sansom, I. Hiles, C. Grainger, M. Sansom, J. Grainger, M. Doyle, R. Roohan.

ST SPYRIDON'S SUCCESS IN SOUTHERN & EASTERN

THE outstanding season enjoyed by the U14 team of Southern & Eastern Soccer Football Association club St Spyridon has whetted the boys' appetite for 1985.

Their achievements were to win both the S&E first division premiership and KO cup and then to reach the NSW Champion of Champions quarter-finals in their grade.

Every player did his job and when they lost they still put on a great effort.

After their fine performances the U14 side was named the "St Spyridon Soccer Club Team of the Year".

John Adam, one of the most successful coaches in the club's history, and experienced manager Con Hairis brought attack style, entertainment and discipline to the players.

Goalkeeper John Adam conceded only four U14 competition goals and pulled off some incredible saves to frustrate the opposing defences.

Defenders John Faria, Steven Stav-

rou and Michael Michaloudis produced non-stop, gusty efforts and attacked aggressively.

The "engine room" consisted of Nick Nistozos, Con Sorras, Mark Melerski, Nick Hairis and captain John Skotadis.

They combined well with the backs and forwards and often out-thought the opposition.

The forward-line consisted of Mathew Remondos, Stan Malaxos, Alex Katsis, John Theotokas and John Loumanis.

These players had the skills to pierce any defence. Loumanis, the goalscoring machine, netted over 20 times in the year.

Team awards went to John Faria (best and fairest), Nick Nistazos (most improved) and John Adam and John Loumanis (managers' awards).



BACK ROW: Tom Adam (coach), Steven Stavrou, John Skotadis (capt), Nick Hairis, Stan Malaxos, Con Sorras, John Faria, Con Hairis (manger).
FRONT ROW: John Theotokas, Alex Katsis, Nick Nistazos, John Adam (v-capt), John Loumanis, Michael Michaloudis, Mathew Remondos.
ABSENT: Mark Melerski.



□ ROBERTO VIERI pictured in action for Marconi. Vieri is now back with the club as director of junior coaching.

VIERI'S CHANCE

FORMER Marconi great Roberto Vieri has the chance to distinguish himself once again.

There are few if any players in Australia who have shone more when it comes to displaying skill on a football field.

This year he will have the chance to pass on his tremendous fund of knowledge in his new post as director of junior coaching for Marconi.

In his heyday in Italy, Vieri played for such world-renowned clubs as Juventus and Roma.

Marconi's juniors have an excellent record over recent years, but there is even greater scope available to them.

The club should widen its net and draw from extra talent which is available from clubs in the huge Southern Districts Soccer Football Association.

In addition there is talent available from the huge school popula-

tion in the Liverpool Region.



Marconi youth players will also receive a

boost as two famous Socceroo goalkeepers, Ron Corry and Allan Maher, will be in charge of the important NSL Youth League team.

Maher's contacts are widespread and he has already proved himself as a man who can ferret out the best juniors available.



□ RON CORRY



□ ALLAN MAHER

Message to juniors from Brian Emery

AUSTRALIAN Soccer Federation executive director Brian Emery for a long time has pinned his faith in the future of youngsters playing the world code in this country.

Rising through the junior ranks himself from the Manly-Warringah district, he has seen the opportunities available to local talent open up to a remarkable degree.

What he has to say must give inspiration to juniors at every level throughout the schools and associations, and we quote:

"If the average soccer supporter had stated five years ago that the Australian Soccer Federation could produce a team of Youth players who would beat the current World Youth champions, Argentina, and would defeat the European champions, Scotland, and would qualify for the quarter-finals of a World Youth Championship, we would have

doubted his awareness of the game.

"All of the above has been achieved over the last five years. The stepping stone process from state junior teams



□ BRIAN EMERY

through to national youth championships and national Youth teams has been of immense benefit to the game in Australia.

"When the first

Youth team was selected there were only two members playing in the National League. In 1984 there were 27 regular first grade NSL players who are eligible by age for the 1985 World Youth Cup.

"The skills displayed by these potential Youth squad members for the 1985 squad gives a great deal of confidence to the future of our game both on a national and international basis."



□ 1981 Youth Socceroos Howard Tredinnick (left), Glenn Ahearn and Peter Raskopoulos.



KU-RING-GAI REPRESENTATIVE

SEAN SMITH, fifth from left in the back row, was Ku-ring-gai's only NSW representative last season.

He travelled to Perth with the state Under 15 team.

KU-RING-GAI U15 YOUTH LEAGUE TEAM 1984:

BACK ROW: Ian Hughes (manager), Makoto Kobayashi, Neil Cox, Tim Jackson, Sean Smith, Brett Jackson, Mick James (coach).

FRONT ROW: Sacha Bogatal, Akira Okamoto, Brett Hughes, Sam Carter, Max Bloomfield.

ABSENT: Yoshiro Morikawa, Anthony Jones.

Ku-ring-gai appeal to boost numbers

KU-RING-GAI Association has issued an appeal to its clubs to give 100 percent attention to player enrolments.

For 1985 the Association has again prepared circulars and posters giving much of the information needed apart from local paper advertising and stories.

Last year the Association lost North Ryde Soccer Football Club, which returned to the Gladesville-Hornsby district.

Teams fell from 654 in 1983 to 612. A revival of enthusiasm amongst the clubs will see Ku-ring-gai right up there once again.

Preparations for season

EVEN at this early stage enrolments for 1985 are either completed, underway, or about to commence.

Many keen players have been keeping fit in six-a-side outdoor and also indoor competitions.

On the northside of Sydney, the Greenwich Sports Club's Under 16 tournament has again been highly successful.

In action have been Lane Cove, Plavi, North Sydney, Rangers, Cosmos, Kirribilli Hotel, Epping Eagles, North Ryde Express Alarms, Northbridge, Lane Cove West, Gordon, Greenwich, 729 Club, Wahroonga, Hunters Hill and Lindfield.

At Mt Ku-ring-gai, the five-a-side indoor tournaments are gearing up at the Ku-ring-gai Sports Centre.

Refereeing is also receiving attention. Those wishing to attend classes can contact G. Weiss (309 3689) or John Hargreaves (487 1253).

Courses are about to commence at the Uniting Church Hall at Greenwich and the Rosarian Hall at Waitara.

Jones is refs secretary

BILL JONES of Newcastle is the secretary of the Australian Soccer Referees' Federation.

He replaces Melbourne's Wal Bates, who stood down after a mammoth 16 years in the post.

Fittingly, presentations were made to mark his services, coming both from the Australian Soccer Federation and his fellow referees.

The president is Dennis McDermott (ACT) and vice-president Ray Sandell (NSW). Leo Wilson (NSW) is national registrar.

CLUB LOGOS

SEND your club logos to us for inclusion in ASW.

Here are two from the strong NSW Cent-

ral Coast area. They represent Ettalong Soccer Club — the Lions — and Terrigal United.



EXCITING NEW ERA AT LAST

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

A NEW president of the Australian Women's Soccer Association, a new national coach, a newly-created position of national executive director and a new executive all add up to a new era for Australian women's soccer.

Northern NSW's Alan Hampton is the newly-elected president of the AWSA and Queensland director of coaching Jim Selby has been replaced as Australia's coach by fellow Queenslander Fred Robins.

Robins is the current coach of Queensland, the champion state at the Australian national titles.

The AWSA, in its 11th year of existence, has decided the time has arrived for the national body to appoint a national executive director.

The position is being advertised and applicants should address their applications to the national secretary, Mrs Barbara Gibson, PO Box 229, Cannington, Perth, Western Australia, 6107.

This decision was announced by Mr Hampton at the AWSA's delegates' meeting in Sydney this month.

The appointment of a national executive director has been made possible only because of a special grant the AWSA will receive from the recently formed Australian Sports Commission in Canberra.

Applications for this full-time position close on February 8.

The move is a gigantic step forward by the AWSA to help resolve the numerous problems associated with running an amateur sport which depends entirely on the efforts of voluntary labour.

Brian Emery, executive director of the Australian Soccer Federation, announced at the delegates' meeting that the ASF will assist by providing office space for the national executive director at its headquarters in Clarence Street.

COMING FEATURES IN ASW

- Jim Selby Talks To ASW
- Julie Dolan, Australia's captain, speaks on Aussie women's soccer
- Australia's new coach cuts loose
- Aussie girls' international profiles

It seems like a new era has begun to unfold for women's soccer — so very vital if we are to compete successfully in the international arena.

Our girls must be given a fighting chance to

succeed and not rely on "one hour preparations" before flying out for international competitions.

Such was the case with Australia's crusade in December when Australia partici-

pated in the professionally organised, unofficial Women's World Cup in Taiwan.

I travelled to Taiwan and discovered just how far behind the Australian system is.

Be it preparation, publicity, organisation, colour, spectacle and international public relations, we have a lot to learn.

Allow me to illus-

trate the highlights of the tournament.

1. It was staged at a cost of 11 million New Taiwan dollars, about \$330,000.

2. Some 6,300 people participated in the opening ceremony before 22,000 spectators.

The glorious and colourful showpiece left the Australian squad stunned and little wonder.

Australia prepared for this tournament by assembling for a one hour training session at Sydney's Centennial Park.

And thanks to the "lovely smooth surface", Australia suffered its first injury even before the players took off for Taiwan, when a Queensland squad member badly twisted her ankle.



□ THE Australian women's soccer team line up before the Taiwan tour.



□ JIMMY SELBY



□ RENAYE ISERIEF



□ VICKY SALMONS



□ AUSTRALIAN captain Julie Dolan (left) and vice-captain Susan Monteath with ASW's John Economos.

AUSTRALIA IN TAIWAN

OVER the next few weeks, AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will bring readers more information from the Taiwan tournament.

Some stories will be serious, others full of humour and should prove rather entertaining as well as informative as our girls came in contact with other players from all over the globe.

Be it players from Japan, USA, China, New Zealand, Switzerland, Norway, Polynesia, West Germany (eventual cup winners) and the "suntanned" ladies from Thailand, all contributed to make the World Women's Invitational Tournament a wonderful, spectacular and unforgettable experience.

You will read about our own girls as they express their feelings and thoughts on Taiwan.

GET YOUR MESSAGE ACROSS — ADVERTISE IN ASW

PHONE JOHN ECONOMOS (02) 660 2033



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KRANKL CASH

HANS KRANKL, the Austrian international centre-forward, is involved in a tug-of-war between two clubs.

Krankl plays for Rapid Vienna and the crowd love him but the club may not be able to keep him. He may have to return to his former Spanish club, Barcelona.

There is still about \$70,000 owing to Barcelona by Rapid — the last instalment of Krankl's transfer fee.

Rapid does not have the money and could lose the player.

LIFE BANS SUGGESTED

MARIO SERGIO of Brazil's Palmeiras admitted taking drugs and was suspended by the Brazilian Federation (CBF) for 90 days.

In addition, Palmeiras had two points deducted for their win against Sao Paulo.

Brazilian opinion was that the club should not have been penalised and Mario Sergio deserved life suspension.

Drug-taking is becoming a big problem in Brazil.

Authorities intend sending guilty footballers to a special rehabilitation centre. If this doesn't cure them, they'll be handed life suspensions.

WORLD RESULTS

ITALY

Atalanta v Juventus	1-1
Avellino v Inter Milan	0-0
Como v Roma	0-0
Lazio v Udinese	1-4
AC Milan v Fiorentina	1-1
Sampdoria v Napoli	0-0
Torino v Cremonese	1-0
Verona v Ascoli	2-0

FRANCE

Nantes v Bordeaux	0-1
Toulon v Bastia	1-0
Toulouse v Metz	1-1
Monaco v Lens	3-0
Brest v Paris SG	3-1
Laval v Sochaux	2-1
Lille v Tours	3-0
Racing Paris v Marseilles	0-2

□ □ □

SPAIN

Atletico Madrid v Malaga	3-0
Hercules v Real Sociedad	0-0
Real Valladolid v Espanol	1-1
Racing v Real Madrid	0-0
Athletic Bilbao v Real Zaragoza	0-3
Sporting v Osasuna	1-0
Sevilla v Elche	1-1
Barcelona v Real Betis	4-0
Valencia v Real Murcia	1-1

HENRI MICHEL, new coach of the excellent French national squad, dropped forward Bernard Lacombe (32), evidently deciding Lacombe was too old for the 1986 World Cup.

"I've had a good run — no complaints," said a surprisingly benign Lacombe.

□ □ □

BELGIUM

Club Brugge v Ghent	0-0
St Niklaas v Waterschei	0-2
Lokeren v Beveren	0-1
Anderlecht v Cercle Brugge	2-1
KV Mechelen v Lierse	3-0
Waregem v Antwerp	4-0
Beerschot v Kortrijk	1-4
FC Leigeois v Seraing	1-0
Standard v Racing Jet	3-3

PORTUGAL

Benfica v Porto	0-1
Farense v Sporting	1-1
Setubal v Braga	0-2
Guimaraes v Vizela	3-0
Salgueiros v Penafiel	2-1
Boavista v Rio Ave	2-3
Academica v Belenenses	0-0
Varzim v Portimonense	1-1

Porto	1816 1 1 49 7 33
Sporting	1812 5 1 4616 29
Benfica	1812 2 4 3918 26
Portimonense	1810 3 5 3525 23
Boavista	18 7 8 3 2518 22

SIR STANLEY MATTHEWS celebrates his 70th birthday soon with more than 1,000 guests invited to his party in Toronto. And in April, he has agreed to play in an "over 40" charity match in Los Angeles.

"I don't mind taking on those over 50s but the 40 year-olds are still young lads," said the ever-young Sir Stanley.

□ □ □

EACH block of seats at Rangers Ibrox Park stadium is painted in a different colour.

The only colour missing is green — because the hated enemy, Celtic plays in green!

Rangers can't do much about the colour of the grass, though, even if somebody once suggested it should be painted blue.



□ KRANKL (right) in action for Barcelona

SANTOS CRISIS

ONE of the world's greatest soccer clubs, Santos of Brazil, will fold at the end of this season unless they can find a wealthy backer.

Santos is the team which spawned Pele, rated by many as the most accomplished footballer ever to kick a ball.

In Pele's boom years, Santos were one of the wealthiest of South American clubs, able to command huge match guarantees for friendly fixtures.

Today, they are heavily in debt and facing extinction.

The shortage of cash is a world-wide problem; even some of Europe's best-known

clubs suffer from it.

For instance, Borussia Dortmund are said to be losing \$70,000 a

week.

This famous West German team has debts of \$2,000,000.



□ FILLOL

Enzo tops in Sth America

WHO is South America's top player?

Enzo Francescoli of River Plate won the award, beating Ubaldo Fillol into second place.

Previous winners include Socrates (1983), Maradona (1979, 1980), Zico (1977, 1981, 1982), Mario Kempes (1978), Figueroa (1974, 1975, 1976).

RACHID READY TO GO

RACHID HARKOUK is all set to play in the World Cup for his adopted country, Algeria.

Harkouk, who plays for Notts County, was

born in London but his father is Algerian.

Rachid lived in Algeria briefly as a boy before returning to England some 15 years ago.

He was warned that, if he went to Algeria to play football, he would be liable for military service and this was the big deterrent to his international football future.

The Algerians have now changed their rules and the Notts County forward has been assured he will not be called up for the army.

"I am ecstatic," he said. "I believe Algeria's chances of qualifying for the 1986 World Cup are good and I would be honoured to play a part."



□ HARKOUK

□ □ □

SZARMACH SCORES

A LOT of Polish fans were unhappy about the way Andrzej Szarmach was treated during the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

He was virtually ignored when Polish teams were selected for the Cup matches, spending most of his time in Spain warming the bench.

At club level, however, Szarmach proved last week that he is a striker of outstanding ability.

His goal for French team, Auxerre, against Metz was his 200th in league games — 109 in Poland and 91 in France.

FALCAO TO USA

FALCAO's big knee operation, expected to restore the outstanding Brazilian to full fitness, was not performed in his adopted country of Italy or his home land Brazil.

Falcao went under the knife in the USA, in the Hughston Orthopedic Clinic in Atlanta.



PREBEN IS TOP DANE

DENMARK's Player of the Year is Preben Elkjaer-Larsen, a consistent goal-scorer with the national side.

In 46 international appearances, this 27-year-old forward has scored 27 goals.

But Danish fans rarely see Elkjaer-Larsen in action. He is where the big money is... in Italian football.

The Dane plays for Verona, a team aiming for the first division title.

□ □ □

LESOTHO, Oman and the Niger Republic all withdrew from the 1986 World Cup — and each was fined \$4,500 for the withdrawal.

LENINGRAD team Zenith are the champions of the Soviet Union, taking the title in a handsome 4-1 victory over Metallist Kharkov.

□ □ □

ZICO, possibly the world's greatest player, packed his bags and left Udinese recently for an extended holiday in his native Brazil.

Zico decided the weather was too cold in northern Italy.

HASAN GOMALI of Somalia has had his football career abruptly ended.

Gomali, charged with taking cocaine through Cairo Airport, has been given a life sentence.

UK Scene



CLIVE ALLEN OUT FOR SIX WEEKS

ENGLAND international Clive Allen had another injury setback when told he would be out of action for another six weeks.

The Spurs striker, who cost \$1,400,000 from Queens Park Rangers at the start of the

season, will have a hernia operation next week and will be out until March.

Allen, who has suffered several injuries, will be a big loss to Tottenham who are chasing three trophies — the championship, FA Cup and UEFA Cup, which they won this year.

REDS WIN CUP TIE

LIVERPOOL reached the fifth round of the FA Cup with a hard-fought 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur in their fourth round tie yesterday.

A 17th minute goal by their Welsh international striker Ian Rush, his 13th in 17 games since recovering from a cartilage operation, settled the outcome of a match played on a hard and partly snow-covered pitch.

Rush scored after a poor clearance by Tottenham goalkeeper Ray Clemence. He robbed defender Graham Roberts and ran on to score with an angled shot as Clemence dived at his feet.

The result left UEFA Cup holders Tottenham without a win at Liverpool since 1912.

DIVISION ONE:
27 — Kerry Dixon (Chelsea)
21 — Graeme Sharp (Everton)
20 — Gary Bannister (Queens Park Rangers), Mark Falco (Tottenham Hotspur)
19 — Gary Lineker (Leicester City)
DIVISION TWO:
22 — John Aldridge (Oxford United)
17 — Billy Hamilton (Oxford United)
16 — Gary Stevens (Shrewsbury), Paul Wilkinson (Grimsby)

ALLEN GETS THERE

PAUL ALLEN must have wondered if he had any future at West Ham a year ago when he was given only the odd game in the first team.

Times have changed for the better.

The retirement of Trevor Brooking plus serious injury to Alan Devonshire presented the Hammers with a midfield headache.

That headache has been cured by Allen, who is enjoying the best season of his career.

It's nearly five years since Paul made history by becoming the youngest player ever to play in a Cup Final at Wembley.

He was captain of England's team in the World Youth Championship played in Australia in 1981 and, despite that great honour, was not at the time a regular first-teamer at West Ham.

"Football has never felt so good as this season", says the very happy Paul Allen.

RAY RATES HIGHEST

RAY CLEMENCE, long written off as an England goalkeeper, is the shock leader of the SUNDAY PEOPLE ratings for the first half of this season.

These ratings are regarded as the most reliable form indicators in the game.

Every player in every team is awarded marks out of 10 each week.

In the section devoted to First Division goalkeepers, Clemence, who has made a big comeback with Spurs after losing his place last season, is the only man to hit the magical 7 mark.

Clemence has polled 7.00 per game. Runner-up is Tom McAllister, who has been deputising for injured Phil Parkes at West Ham United.

McAllister's rating is 6.86, closely pursued by English first choice Peter Shilton with 6.85.

Although Clemence will be 38 when his Spurs contract expires, he says: "Age needn't be a barrier in the goal-keeping job. Dino Zoff and Pat Jennings have proved that."

"A couple of problems creep in with age — it is difficult getting

motivated when you've been through it all before, and it takes longer to recover from injuries."

Clemence missed the latter part of last season with shoulder ligament trouble. He fought back to fitness, taking only six days off for his summer holiday.

While Clemence is enjoying a super season, his success has meant heartbreak for his deputy at Tottenham, Tony Parks.

Parks was Spurs hero when he saved the vital penalty kick in the shoot-out which decided the 1984 UEFA Cup Final, but has skidded downhill to reserve team football after the heady glory of Europe.

He doesn't begrudge Clemence the top job but is very upset over Spurs attempts to buy Norwegian international goalkeeper Erik Thorstvedt.

Unhappy Tony Parks says: "A transfer request seems to be the only thing left for me. I

have never felt so low in my life."



□ TONY PARKS

YOU can often tell how well a player is doing financially by checking on the car he drives.

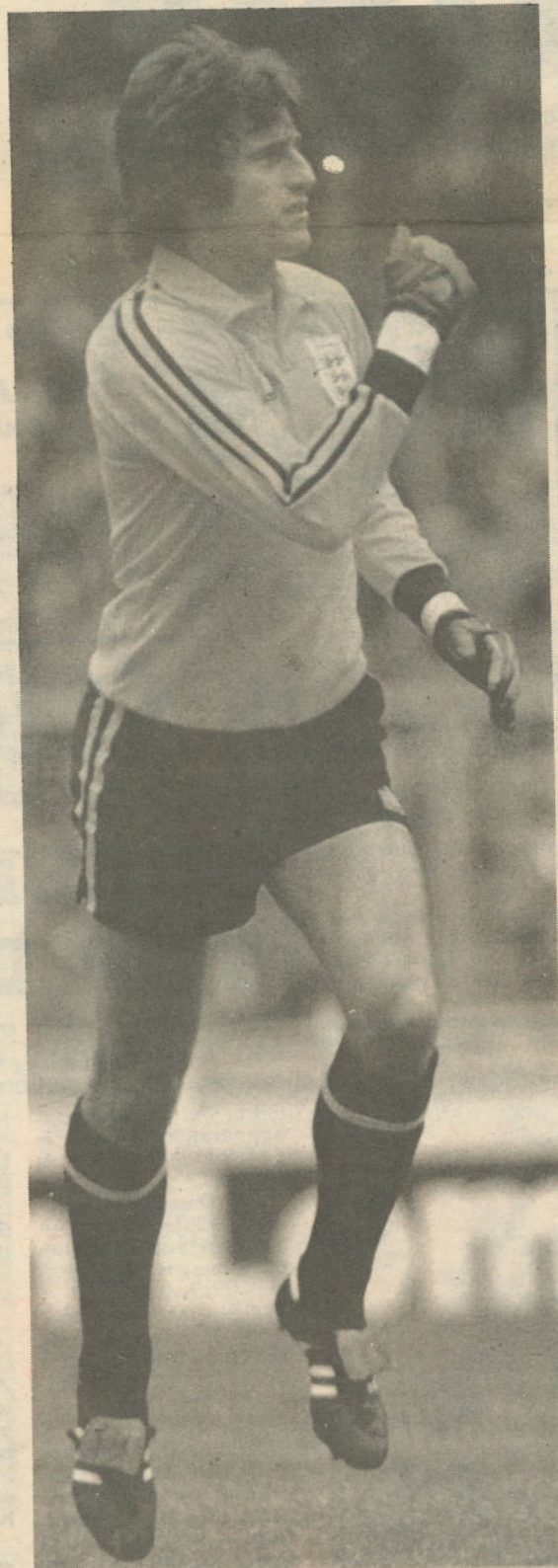
Maurice "Mo" Johnston passed his driving test in a Ford Escort, but these days, he drives to training in Porsche.

Glasgow Celtic paid a "cheap" \$600,000 to buy Johnston from Watford but the player copped plenty for himself out of the deal.

□ □ □

WOLVES are keen to buy Gary Stevens from non-League club Willenhall.

That could be confusing. There is a Gary Stevens with Spurs, another with Everton and yet another with Shrewsbury.



□ RAY CLEMENCE: super season.

IN POLL

• ALL THE SUNDAY PEOPLE RATINGS:

FIRST DIVISION Goalkeepers

Clemence (Spurs)	7.00
McAllister (West Ham)	6.86
Shilton (So'ton)	6.85
Hucker (Q.P.R.)	6.80
Hodge (Sheff Wed)	6.78
Woods (Norwich)	6.75
Southall (Everton)	6.71

Defenders

Lawrenson (Liverpool)	7.36
Watson (Norwich)	7.21
Bennett (West Brom)	7.13
Bruce (Norwich)	7.07
Fenwick (Q.P.R.)	7.00
Martin (West Ham)	7.00
Pates (Chelsea)	7.00
Sansom (Arsenal)	7.00
Robertson (West Brom)	6.93
Bennett (Sunderland)	6.92
Lyons (Sheff Wed)	6.83
Statham (West Brom)	6.81

Midfield

Shelton (Sheff Wed)	7.46
Allen (West Ham)	7.33
Hazard (Spurs)	7.27
Strachan (Man United)	7.23
Steven (Everton)	7.21
Bracewell (Everton)	7.07
Hunt (West Brom)	7.06
Moses (Man United)	7.07
Reid (Everton)	7.00
Robson (Arsenal)	7.00
Sheedy (Everton)	7.00
Talbot (Arsenal)	7.00
Robson (Man United)	6.92
Wharton (Newcastle)	6.85
Grealish (West Brom)	6.81
Molby (Liverpool)	6.80

Forwards

Waddle (Newcastle)	7.50
Speedie (Chelsea)	7.23
Barnes (Watford)	7.20
Dalglish (Liverpool)	7.18
Heath (Everton)	7.15
Nevin (Chelsea)	7.14
Chiedozie (Spurs)	7.07
Varadi (Sheff Wed)	7.00
Beardsley (Newcastle)	6.92
Sharp (Everton)	6.92
Deehan (Norwich)	6.83
Thompson (West Brom)	6.81
Walker (Sunderland)	6.78
Channon (Norwich)	6.72

SCOTLAND

Miller (Aberdeen)	7.40
McLeish (Aberdeen)	7.33
Sturrock (Dundee U)	7.31
Arthur (Dumbarton)	7.20
Clougherty (Dumbarton)	7.20
Provan (Celtic)	7.18
Leighton (Aberdeen)	7.00
Cooper (Rangers)	6.93
McNamara (Hibs)	6.92
Bomer (Celtic)	6.87

SECOND DIVISION

Parker (Fulham)	7.58
Wilson (Brighton)	7.43
Owen (Barnsley)	7.33
Fletcher (Barnsley)	7.30
Ward (Oldham)	7.28
Lorimer (Leeds)	7.26
Miller (Blackburn)	7.14
McDonald (Oxford)	7.13
Gennoe (Shrewsbury)	7.07
Langran (Oxford)	7.00
MacLaren (Shrewsbury)	7.00
Barker (Blackburn)	6.92
Webb (Portsmouth)	6.92
Beasant (Wimbledon)	6.86
Moore (Grimsby)	6.86
Wilkinson (Grimsby)	6.86
Harkouk (Notts Co)	6.86
Knight (Portsmouth)	6.85

THIRD DIVISION

Walwyn (York)	7.38
McCall (Bradford C)	7.30
Hird (Burnley)	7.23
Walsh (Wigan)	7.16
Langley (Wigan)	7.15
D. Williams (Bristol R)	7.13
Coughlin (Plymouth)	7.11
Birch (Rotherham)	7.00
Senior (Reading)	7.00
Methven (Wigan)	6.92
Bremner (Millwall)	6.91
Randall (Bristol R)	6.91
G. Williams (Bristol R)	6.85
Cherry (Walsall)	6.85
Shaw (Gillingham)	6.85
Farnworth (Bolton)	6.83
Hart (Walsall)	6.78
Oghani (Bolton)	6.78

FOURTH DIVISION

Airey (Darlington)	7.45
Kelly (Peterboro)	7.35
Thompson (Rochdale)	7.27
Gage (Northampton)	7.16
Moss (Chesterfield)	7.15
Jakub (Bury)	7.14
Newton (Chesterfield)	7.00
O'Rourke (Blackpool)	7.00
Rose (Hereford)	7.00
Cooke (Rochdale)	6.90
Steel (Wrexham)	6.90
Foster (Mansfield)	6.85
Greenall (Blackpool)	6.85
McDonald (Aldershot)	6.85
Ross (Bury)	6.85
Hunter (Chesterfield)	6.80
Anderson (Torquay)	6.79
O'Shea (Exeter)	6.79
Adcock (Colchester)	6.75

NEWCOMERS

Strachan (Man United)	7.23
Molby (Liverpool)	6.80
Metgod (Forest)	6.58
Olson (Man United)	6.69

UK TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Everton	24	15	4	5	53	29	49
Tottenham	24	14	5	5	49	25	47
Man. United	24	12	5	7	46	30	41
Sheff. Wed.	24	11	8	5	39	24	41
Arsenal	24	12	4	8	44	31	40
Liverpool	24	10	8	6	33	22	38
Southampton	24	10	7	7	29	28	37
Chelsea	24	9	9	6	40	29	36
Notts Forest	23	11	3	9	36	34	36
Norwich	25	10	6	9	31	34	36
West Bromwich	25	10	5	10	37	36	35
Aston Villa	24	8	7	9	34	38	31
West Ham	23	8	7	8	30	34	31
Q.P.R.	25	7	10	8	32	39	31
Watford	23	7	8	8	45	42	29
Leicester	24	8	5	11	42	45	29
Newcastle	24	7	7	10	37	49	28
Sunderland	23	7	5	11	29	35	26
Coventry	25	7	4	14	26	45	25
Ipswich	23	5	7	11	21	33	22
Luton	23	5	6	12	27	43	21
Stoke	24	2	6	16	17	52	12

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	24	14	6	4	47	23	48
Oxford	21	14	4	3	51	18	46
Man. City	25	13	7	5	40	20	46
Birmingham	23	14	4	5	33	21	46
Portsmouth	24	11	9	4	39	32	42
Leeds	24	12	4	8	45	29	40
Grimsby	24	11	4	9	47	40	37
Huddersf.	24	11	4	9	33	35	37
Barnsley	22	9	9	4	25	15	36
Brighton	23	10	6	7	24	17	36
Fulham	24	11	3	10	43	44	36
Shrewsbury	24	9	8	7	43	36	35
Wimbledon	24	9	4	11	42	51	31
Carlisle	23	8	4	11	24	34	28
Sheff. United	25	5	10	10	37	42	25
Oldham	23	6	4	12	25	43	25
Charlton	24	6	6	12	31	37	24
Middlesbro	24	6	6	12	28	38	24
Crystal Palace	22	5	8	9	27	34	23
Wolves	25	6	5	14	30	51	23
Notts County	25	4	5	16	21	49	17
Cardiff	23	3	4	16	25	51	13

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bradford	25	16	5	4	40	20	53
Hull	24	12	9	3	39	23	45
Gillingham	24	14	3	7	45	38	45
Rotherham	25	13	5	7	36	24	44
Bristol Rovers	24	12	6	6	40	29	42
Millwall	23	11	7	5	39	27	40
Bristol City	24	11	6	7	39	30	39

Bournemouth	26	11	6	9	27	20	39
Derby	24	11	5	8	38	31	38
Reading	25	11	5	9	38	38	38
York	24	11	4	9	43	34	37
Wigan	25	9	9	7	30	31	36
Doncaster	24	10	4	10	40	37	34
Walsall	25	8	9	6	28	26	33
Newport	25	8	8	9	32	33	32
Brentford	25	8	7	10	30	37	31
Bolton	25	9	3	13	40	35	30
Lincoln	23	6	8	9	28	26	26
Plymouth	24	6	7	11	36	45	25
Burnley	23	6	4	14	30	57	22
Preston	24	6	4	14	30	57	22
Orient	24	6	3	15	26	44	21
Swansea	25	5	4	16	27	50	19
Cambridge	24	3	4	17	20	46	13

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bury	25	15	5	5	42	23	50
Chesterfield	25	14	8	3	42	24	50
Hereford	24	14	6	4	39	17	48
Blackpool	25	14	6	5	41	24	48
Darlington	22	12	8	2	31	15	44
Peterboro	26	13	5	8	37	31	44
Colchester	24	11	7	6	46	39	40
Tranmere	25	13	1	11	46	39	40
Swindon	24	10	5	9	34	34	35
Hartlepool	24	9	8	7	30	30	35
Crewe	25	10	5	10	34	37	35
Mansfield	23	8	8	7	19	15	32
Port Vale	25	8	8	8	34	34	32
Southend	22	7	7	11	36	52	28
Aldershot	24	7	5	12	31	38	26
Stockport	22	7	5	10	29	37	26
Northampton	25	7	2	16	33	45	23
Exeter	24	5	8	11	30	43	23
Halifax	22	7	2	13	20	35	23
Rochdale	22	5	7	10	21	31	22
Chester	23	5	6	12	26	37	21
Torquay	25	4	8	13	24	41	18
Wrexham	23	5	3	15	36	43	16